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NO 7118 MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1987 RABI UL-THANI 23, 1408 AH 16 PAGES 100 FILLS

Boys cheat more at exams

BOYS cheat more than girls in school examinations though both groups cite the same reasons for cheating according to a study.

During a random survey it was found out that 99 per cent of school boys cheat while 75 per cent of girls cheated, said the study conducted by a group of educators of the Public Authority of Applied Education.

The study found that the inclination to cheat becomes stronger as a student moves a grade up.

Key reasons for cheating in examinations included the desire to pass at any cost, poor preparation and the tight examination schedule.

In high school graduation examinations, students tend to cheat for fear that they would not obtain marks high enough for them to join a college of preference, according to the study.

The study said that 90.7 per cent of the teachers questioned said that students cheat in examinations.

The study recommended that schools and university faculties should organise seminars on the issue, re-assess the examination system and instruct educators to close a gap between them and students to remedy the situation.

On their opinions for the best means to prevent cheating, students said there should be only one examination a day, there must be a strict supervision by teachers and the penalties must be imposed strictly.

Belgian polls

BRUSSELS, Dec 13, (AP) Initial results of today's general elections showed Prime Minister Wilfried Martens' four-party centre-right government losing ground to the opposition Socialists while keeping its legislative majority.

INSIDE

International	2
Kuwait-Gulf	3-4
Events	5
Editorials	6
Pictures	7
Features	8-9
Business	10
Currencies	11
Classifieds	12
Urdu	13-14
Sports	15-16

آج کے اردو صفحات میں

بین الاقوامی اور مقامی خبریں

سیاحتی اور تفریحی خبریں

ادبیات اور فنون لطیفہ کی خبریں

سیاحتی اور تفریحی خبریں

ادبیات اور فنون لطیفہ کی خبریں

سیاحتی اور تفریحی خبریں

ادبیات اور فنون لطیفہ کی خبریں

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with moderate northerly wind, may freshen at times.

State of sea: moderate to rough

High water: 4.30 am, 6.30 pm

Low water: 11.30 am, 11.30 pm

Sunrise: 6.34 am

Sunset: 4.51 pm

Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 27°C 81°F

Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 22°C 72°F

Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 27°C 81°F

Minimum temperature expected: Kuwait: 22°C 72°F

Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 62 per cent

Minimum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 50 per cent

Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 60 per cent

Minimum humidity expected: Kuwait: 50 per cent

Maximum wind speed recorded: Kuwait: 15 km/hr

Minimum wind speed recorded: Kuwait: 10 km/hr

Maximum wind speed expected: Kuwait: 15 km/hr

Minimum wind speed expected: Kuwait: 10 km/hr

UN failed to end war: Velayati

Threat of embargo a joke: Iran

ISLAMABAD, Dec 13, (Agencies) Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati acknowledged that efforts by the United Nations to end the Iran-Iraq war had failed and dismissed the threat of an arms embargo against Tehran as a "joke."

Velayati, the chief spokesman of Iranian foreign policy to the West, spoke at a news conference yesterday after meeting Pakistani President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo.

Velayati said organisations such as the United Nations had spoken of a "shorter and sounder way" of ending the seven-year-old Gulf war through diplomacy rather than war, and that Iran's leadership had given a chance to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's peace efforts in the region.

Agreed

In September, Perez de Cuellar tried to gain Iranian acceptance of UN resolution 598, which calls for a ceasefire in the war. Iraq agreed to accept the resolution, providing Tehran admitted to starting the conflict, but Iran rejected the ceasefire unless Baghdad be branded and punished for invading Iran on Sept 22, 1980. Iraq has refused to be branded the aggressor.

Perez de Cuellar last week ended negotiations with Iranian and Iraqi officials on ending the war and raised the possibility of sanctions — a second phase in US efforts through the United Nations to end the war that

would include an arms embargo against Tehran.

Velayati called an arms embargo against Iran a "joke." He said the war would continue and that Iranian forces already had driven as deep as 60 miles (100 km) into Iraqi territory.

He said should the UN Security Council impose an arms embargo Iran will not "face any difficulties. This is just being used as a propaganda weapon."

"Now that the secretary-general's efforts have reached nowhere, as he has mentioned, there is the same conclusion that we envisioned: Iraq is not going to accept a political and honourable solution."

Protection

He said the protection of merchant shipping in the volatile Gulf depends on regional forces and an end of the war.

"It's not acceptable to us for any country outside the region coming to the Gulf for bringing security or obstructing security," Velayati said.

Meanwhile, at the United Nations US Ambassador Vernon Walters said the Soviet Union and China, initially opposed to an arms embargo against Iran, are losing patience and may be close to voting for a weapons ban to enforce a UN peace plan.

"I think they (the Soviet Union) and China are close to it," Walters said during the taping of WABC's eyewitness news conference. "They told us they would go along with an arms embargo if Iran continues to defy the Security Council ceasefire call."

Iranian attacks on tankers

New weapon used to set ships ablaze

DUBAI, Dec 13, (Reuters) Iran is using a new weapon or projectile to torch tankers in the Gulf, regional shipping sources said today.

They said Iranian gunboats used either a new weapon or fired a new kind of incendiary projectile from weapons already in use to spark the spectacular fires which enveloped two tankers last week, sinking one.

"In the past, projectiles fired by the Iranians caused only small holes in the ships and small fires which the crew on board could extinguish, usually with no help from firefighting tugs," said a shipping agent.

Suspect

"Whatever hit the Norman Atlantic and the Pivot caused devastating fires," he added.

"We suspect a new projectile, some kind of incendiary with phosphorus peroxide, which turns the ships into torches."

A huge blaze on the 232,644-tonne Cypriot supertanker Pivot, following an Iranian attack yesterday, forced most of the 44-member crew to abandon ship.

It took four firefighting tugs

several hours to contain the fire, the smoke from which could be seen 30 miles away in Dubai.

The attack on the Pivot, a retaliatory raid for Iraqi attacks on Iranian tankers, followed the sinking of the 85,129-tonne Singapore naphtha carrier Norman Atlantic on Thursday at the entrance of the Strait of Hormuz.

The ship sank after burning for four days following an attack by Iranian gunboats as it left the Gulf for Japan with a load of Kuwaiti naphtha.

Intense

The flames were so intense, reaching temperatures of 3,000 degrees centigrade and visible at night from 50 miles away, that firefighting tugs were forced to flee the ship and let it sink.

The Norman Atlantic was the first tanker to be sunk in the tanker war, which in 1981 grew out of the Iran-Iraq ground conflict and moved into high gear three years ago.

The sources said Iraq's decision to upgrade its anti-ship weapons could be a reaction to the presence of Western navies in the Gulf, a move bitterly criticised by Tehran.



Kuwait's Oil Minister, Sheikh Ali Khalifa (left) and Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer arrive for an Opec meeting. (Reuters radiophoto)

30 injured as anti-Israeli protests continue

OCCUPIED Jerusalem, Dec 13, (Agencies) Israeli soldiers clashed with Palestinians today in refugee camps and towns in the fifth day of violence in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. About 30 Arabs were injured, many by Army gunfire, Arab reports said.

The unrest, which has claimed eight lives and resulted in scores of injuries since last Wednesday, was described by Israeli commentators as some of the worst since a wave of protests against Israel's expulsion of two West Bank mayors in 1980-1981.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat accused the Israeli cabinet of planning the current wave of violence which he claimed killed 23 Arabs and injured 210 others.

Protect

In a radio interview with the BBC, Arafat called on the United Nations Security Council "to condemn this organised official terrorism from this Israeli military junta and to find the ways and the means how to protect our people."

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his 24-member cabinet discussed the disturbances for more than one hour today. Shamir said the situation was under control and denied suggestions that a civil rebellion was taking place.

"The Army continues to succeed in its fight against terror through complete control of the situation, contrary to descriptions which are grossly inflated," Shamir said in a cabinet communiqué.

The Palestine Press Service, an Arab-run news agency, listed names, ages and injuries of 27 Arabs who were treated in a hospital after being hurt in demonstrations in Gaza. It said 17 Palestinians were injured by Army gunfire, most in the hands or feet, and six others had been beaten by soldiers.

In the West Bank town of Hebron, two Palestinian students were injured. Israeli radio said Arab protesters threw stones at a civilian bus carrying a number of soldiers, three of whom were injured by flying glass. The soldiers chased the stone-throwers and two Arabs were shot.

Army spokesman said five Arabs were wounded, four in Gaza and one in Hebron. An Israeli soundman working for a foreign TV network was hospitalised with facial injuries after being stoned in Gaza.

Ousted S. Yemeni leader sentenced to death

SANAA, Dec 13, (Reuters) Ousted South Yemeni President Ali Nasser Mohammed warned today of a violent backlash after an Aden court passed death sentences on him and 34 former top aides.

"We are sure the reaction of our friends (in South Yemen) will be violent," he told reporters in the North Yemeni capital of Sanaa. But he said he did not want war to engulf the two states.

The court in Aden, capital of Marxist-ruled South Yemen, announced the sentences yesterday after a year-long trial of 108 people, 44 in their absence, on treason charges.

Former Air Force Chief Ahmed Hussein Mussa was among 16 people who appeared in court and were sentenced to death. It was not known when they would face a firing squad. The verdict has still to be ratified by President Haider Abubaker Al Attas.

Among those sentenced to death were former Navy Chief Abdullah Ahmed Al Hussein and former Interior Minister Mohammed Abdullah Al Botani. They fled the country after the fighting in which the court said 4,300 people were killed.

Some of the accused were also charged with terrorism and sabotage.

Amnesty

The court granted an amnesty to five fugitives, and found six defendants who appeared in court not guilty. Charges against one former official were dropped after he died in jail.

The others — including Nasser's power, education and information ministers — drew jail sentences ranging from five to 15 years.

Several Aden officials defected to North Yemen in the last few weeks to protest at the trial.

Sikh high priest released

CHANDIGARH, India, Dec 13, (Reuters) The leader of India's 14 million Sikhs was freed from 10 days' house arrest today and immediately vowed fresh protests against the Indian government.

The authorities withdrew the detention order against Darshan Singh Rana, originally to last one month, because "his detention is no longer necessary," said the Punjab district magistrate in a statement.

Darshan Singh, the acting head of the Sikh religion, was arrested one day before he was due to lead an anti-government

march to New Delhi to press for political concessions for the north Indian state of Punjab.

Police in the Indian capital arrested more than 200 militant Sikhs during the banned march.

Darshan Singh told reporters at his home near Chandigarh, capital of Punjab, that the government had taken away a fundamental right of the Sikhs by banning the protest while allowing a major demonstration by opposition leftist parties a few days later.

"However, we will not give up. We will soon reorganise a protest march to Delhi," he said.

Opec talks on oil output ceiling stalled

VIENNA, Dec 13, (Reuters) Opec's efforts to reach a makeshift pact to extend its current \$18 per barrel price ran into problems today because of differences over how much oil the group should produce next year, delegates said.

Ministers had hoped to push through a compromise formula to maintain Opec's year-long grip on world oil markets this evening but this was now unlikely, delegates said.

They said Iran, backed by Algeria, Libya, the UAE and Gabon, wanted the group to agree to produce less oil in the first quarter of next year when demand is expected to fall with the approach of spring in the northern hemisphere.

Drive

Iran wants Opec to raise prices but Gulf states such as Saudi Arabia believe this would drive clients away to other oil exporters.

Traders said if the group agreed to reduce output in the first few months of 1988, it would keep prices firm and give the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries the chance to raise prices at its next meeting in June.

Iran, Algeria and Libya have all called on Opec to cut output sharply to raise prices. Iran says the group should still be charging its defunct 198 reference price of \$28.

Ministers met privately to try to find a way out of the impasse. Some delegations had not anticipated such last-minute problems and were booked to fly home, officials said.

The compromise deal, worked out in five days of talks, would have set Opec output at 15.06 million barrels per day (bpd) for the first six months of 1988.

It would exclude Iraq, which

rejects the 1.54 million barrels per day (bpd) quota assigned to it because it wants the same as its Gulf war foe Iran. Tehran was given 2.369 million bpd in the last output share-out.

Iran wants to charge the world more for oil to compensate for the dollar's slide and world inflation but delegates say key Arab Gulf states fear higher prices would drive clients away to other suppliers.

They said the trade-off between the two camps was a public commitment to try to limit output to defend the prevailing price in an attempt to convince a sceptical world oil market.

Failure to come up with a new output ceiling would depress prices, already at eight-month lows because of Opec over-production, delegates said.

The main hurdle now was whether the so-called rollover of the current pact would last for six months or a year, they said.

Iran wants it reviewed at the next Opec meeting in June but Gulf states, particularly Saudi Arabia, would prefer the pact to last for a year, they said.

Differing

Opec leaders were trying to find a form of words for the final communiqué which would gloss over the differing views of the two camps, delegates said.

It was likely that the group would hold a closing session either late today or early tomorrow, depending on whether a formula acceptable to all could be reached, delegates said.

Whatever the outcome, Iran is certain to call for higher prices at the June talks. It wants Opec to return to a \$28 price, which the organisation enforced until 1985 when its price and output pact unravelled because quotas were ignored.

Human shield protects Asean leaders

MANILA, Dec 13, (Reuters) South-East Asian leaders flew into fortress Manila today for their first regional summit meeting in a decade.

Unarmed military cadets formed a human shield and battle-hardened marines manned checkpoints on city streets in a security screen unprecedented in the troubled, coup-struck Philippine capital.

Twenty-five hundred cadets wearing fatigue trousers and white tee-shirts threw a human ring around the sprawling complex fronting Manila Bay and lined the roads leading to it under the shadow of Indonesian and Malaysian warships sent in for additional protection.

The complex itself looked like a military garrison with helicopters, fire engines, ambulances and paramedics on standby. Military police and troops were everywhere.

"Our orders are to secure the area and act as a buffer force," Lieutenant Colonel Elias Galicia told reporters.

He said his cadets were in addition to 10,000 troops and police withdrawn from the Manila government's anti-insurgency drive to provide security for leaders of Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Analysts said the two-day summit, which many had said

would never be held in Manila's explosive environment, was a major vote of regional support for Philippine President Corazon Aquino.

After days of tension and bombings, the only gunfire that shook the city was the blasts of the formal 21 and 19-gun salutes of welcome.

Brunei's Sultan Sir Muda Hassan Bolkiah, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohamad of Malaysia, Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda were whisked through the airport in low key welcomes lasting only about two minutes.

The summit's only full working session will be held tomorrow after the arrival of Indonesia's President Suharto.

Security demands caused chaos at the airport, where a bomb exploded earlier in the week. All flights were cancelled as the leaders' aircraft flew in and passengers waiting for delayed connections were searched before being allowed to enter the terminal. A grenade tossed from a taxi exploded last night outside the Malaysian embassy.

Outside the leaders were sped through streets cleared of Manila's normally chaotic traffic and specially smartened up for the meeting.

Khaddafi advocates violence against rulers opposing unity

BEIRUT, Dec 13, (Reuters) Libyan leader Moammar Khaddafi told a conference of Arab opposition parties in Tripoli he advocates violence to overthrow Arab kings and rulers opposing Arab unity.

In a speech to the conference carried by Libyan television last night, he declared:

"Previously we used to make it a condition for Arab unity to be a revolutionary unity. Alright: We have conceded for the sake of unity. We said let the kings, the sultans, the sheikhs, the presidents for life or half life or quarter life remain as they are."

"But let us make a chairman-ship council out of these rulers and let us make an executive council out of the Arab prime ministers," he said in the broadcast monitored by the BBC.

"If they refused even this form, what is left before us, being forced to the point that some of you must go underground and start blowing the ground up under the feet of rulers and kings."

"This does not mean that we desire violence, but necessity pushes us to this since if we do not kill, they will kill us," the Libyan leader said.

Opposition may soon name person to replace Ershad

DHAKA, Dec 13, (Agencies) An opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia has told a news conference that the political parties behind the month-long campaign to oust President Hossain Mohammad Ershad were close to selecting a person to replace him in an interim government they demand.

Begum Zia, leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, did not say who was being considered for the transitional post.

Ershad, who seized power in a bloodless 1982 coup, has said repeatedly he will not quit. He imposed emergency rule Nov 27 to try to halt the anti-government agitation, and public rallies

remain banned.

A liaison committee of the major opposition parties met yesterday and issued a statement repeating its demand that Ershad resign immediately and transfer power to "a neutral and non-partisan person."

Attempt

"The people will resist any attempt by any coterie to grab power through conspiracy and extra-constitutional measures," the statement said, adding that Ershad must resign "without hampering the constitutional process."

There have been widespread rumours that Ershad might impose martial law to restore

order to the country, which has undergone several coups since it broke away from Pakistan in 1971.

But Anwar Zahid, Ershad's Information Minister, said, "The government is not planning any extra-constitutional measures to meet the opposition challenge."

The main opposition leaders, Begum Zia and Sheikh Hasina of the Awami League, told separate news conferences, the head of the interim government they seek should be "acceptable to all parties involved in the present movement."

Both the leaders, who were released Thursday from 30 days

of house arrest, cautioned the President against any move toward martial law.

"People have not accepted the emergency rule and shall not accept any step in violation of the constitution," Hasina said.

"People fought against martial law in the past and shall do it again," Mrs Zia said.

Ershad dissolved Parliament on Dec 6 and said he would hold new elections in 90 days. The opposition parties have said they will not participate, contending that any elections while Ershad remains in power would be unfair.

But Begum Zia said: "We are ready to participate in polls, even

within 90 days, if held by a neutral caretaker government."

Hasina voiced the same pledge at a separate news conference.

The official BSS news agency reported Ershad met with his senior Army commanders to discuss the situation.

Ershad said the suspected "foreign hands" were behind a month of unrest launched by his opponents to topple him.

He did not name any country in a speech yesterday but said violence during 13 days of general strikes was designed to cripple the economy and force Bangladesh to import more.

(Continued on Page 2)

INTERNATIONAL

Jordan insists on peace conference

Hussein rejects direct talks

BEIRUT, Dec 13. (AP): King Hussein of Jordan said in a newspaper interview published today that he rejected a proposal to hold summit talks with Israel in Washington during the US-Soviet summit conference last week.

"The proposal was that a Jordanian-Israeli summit be held on the sidelines of the superpowers' summit," Hussein said in an interview published by the leftist Beirut newspaper As-Safir.

"It was natural to reject this proposal because, in our view, it does not constitute an alternative to the international conference we are seeking to resolve the Middle East conflict," Hussein added.

The Jordanian monarch, did not say who made the proposal and what was Israel's response. But Hussein said he was sup-

posed under that proposal to discuss with Israel's leaders "phase-by-phase arrangements, not an overall peace settlement."

Hussein made the statement in response to a question whether it was true that Jordan had rejected a proposal that the United States and the Soviet Union co-sponsor Arab-Israeli peace negotiations.

He reiterated his conviction that an international conference comprising the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and all parties to the conflict was "the only way to deal with the conflict."

Hussein said Yasser Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organisation should be invited to participate as "a full-fledged partner because it is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians."

The United States and the Soviet Union support the international conference proposal. But Israel's coalition government is divided on the issue. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres of the Labor Party is amenable, but Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir from the Likud bloc rejects the idea altogether.

Hussein said Egypt, the only Arab country that has signed a peace treaty with Israel, was now supporting the international conference "and we hope it will take an active part in it."

Camp David

He said the Egyptian support meant that President Hosni Mubarak's administration had actually abandoned the US-sponsored Camp David accords as the framework for settling the Palestinian question.

That agreement was concluded at Camp David in 1978 by the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin in face-to-face talks under the auspices of then US President Jimmy Carter.

The accord stipulated for Israel and Egypt to agree on a phase process to grant the Palestinians "full autonomy" in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"But the PLO viewed the plan as a step toward annexation and demanded full statehood. All Arabs governments rejected the Camp David agreement."

"Camp David, in my view, is a closed matter. We are in a new status at present," Hussein said in As-Safir's interview.

Hussein, a pro-western conservative ruler, said Jordan

"maintains normal relations with the United States although we differ in several spheres."

He was apparently alluding to a strain that development upon the rejection by the US Congress of projected American arms sales to Jordan early this decade.

Hussein arrived in Doha today on the third leg of a whirlwind tour of Gulf Arab states for alignment of views on the Arab-Israeli problem and the Iraq-Iran war before he visits London and Moscow.

Diplomatic sources said the Jordanian monarch was also reviewing means of bolstering Arab solidarity in wake of the breakthroughs he scored at the Arab summit he hosted in Amman last month.

Hussein was in Kuwait on Saturday and stayed overnight in Bahrain for talks with the rulers.



A doctor treats a child injured in the bus-train collision near Cairo. (Reuter radiophoto)

Death toll rises in Cairo accident

HH the Amir yesterday sent a cable of condolences to Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak on the death of several students and teachers in the worst accident between a train and a school bus.

Meanwhile, the death toll from an Egyptian bus loaded with children which was sliced in two by a speeding train has risen to 63 with 67 injured.

The bus, carrying 130 children and six teachers home from an outing, was hit by a train on Friday when it crossed the Cairo-Suez line on an unguarded crossing built for pedestrians only.

First reports said 53 children, aged between six and 12 were killed when the bus was dragged more than 100 metres along the track in Egypt's worst road crash in years.

Police initially said that 150 children were packed into the bus which was designed to carry 42 people. Education Minister Fathi Sorour told reporters school officials would be disciplined for allowing too many children on the vehicle.

Police sources said on Saturday that five children were still missing.

As doctors in two hospitals worked round the clock to save

six of the injured on the critical list, investigators sought clues to the crash from the few who survived and began interrogating the train driver.

Police said preliminary investigations showed the bus driver, who was killed, was to blame.

The children were returning home to Kafr Ash-Sburafa village, 25 km northeast of Cairo from a weekend excursion to a zoo and the Giza pyramids.

"It was their death picnic," wailed one mother, waiting at a Cairo hospital for news of surgery on her seven-year-old daughter.

The Egyptian cabinet last night squarely blamed the driver of the bus for the accident.

A statement issued by the cabinet said 67 other passengers on the bus carrying 130 people were injured.

The statement, issued more than 24 hours after the crash occurred, flatly blamed Adel Aziz, the driver of the bus, for attempting to cross the tracks at an unmarked crossing.

It said Aziz could have used either one of two legal railroad crossings instead. The back tires of the passenger bus apparently stuck in the tracks when it was hit by a train.

Tigers vow to crush rival guerrillas

COLOMBO, Dec 13. (Reuter): Sri Lanka's Tamil Tigers pledged today to crush rival separatist groups after two days of guerrilla infighting killed at least three people including a 10-year-old boy.

"These men (groups) are anti-social elements. They are robbing the people and harassing them," a spokesman for the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said in the northern district of Vavuniya.

"They must be eliminated," he told reporters.

He said Tiger fighters seeking an independent Tamil homeland in the island's north and east were planning attacks on three rival groups in Vavuniya district next week.

The Tigers, opposed to a July peace accord aimed at ending the bloody four-year-old separatist rebellion, have thrown their fighters into battle against rival groups who support the pact and Indian peace-keeping troops sent to disarm all the guerrillas.

Killing

The Tigers on Saturday killed a young member of the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOT) after pulling him from a bus, residents in the area said.

The Tigers lost one of their men in a reprisal attack the same day.

"Something big appears to be happening here... the LTTE is preparing for a big confrontation, very soon, with other groups," a military spokesman at Vavuniya said.

The Tigers had attacked a PLOT camp at Mannar in the north-west on Saturday, he said. He had no word on casualties.

Residents said a 10-year-old boy was cut down in crossfire between the Tigers and the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO) in Vavuniya district on Friday in a battle military officials say cost the lives of an unknown number of people.

Compensation for gas victims promised

NEW DELHI, Dec 13. (AP): Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has pledged that victims of the 1984 Bhopal gas disaster would receive adequate compensation, the United News of India reported.

Rajiv told a rally in the city of Bhopal that "the government would do everything to ensure adequate compensation," the news agency said.

He called on voluntary organisations to assist the state and federal government in relief efforts among the gas victims and promised "all possible steps" to find work for the needy.

India has filed a \$3 billion lawsuit against the Union Carbide Corp. for the gas leak on Dec 3, 1984, in Bhopal, in central India.

More than 2,800 people were killed and at least 20,000 seriously injured when lethal methyl-isocyanate gas leaked from a pesticide plant run by a Carbide subsidiary.

Tour

Rajiv toured slum neighbourhoods around the now-closed Carbide plant for more than an hour on Saturday to meet gas victims, UNI said.

Lawyers for both sides said last month they were close to an out-of-court settlement in the case and some reports said \$500 million in compensation was being considered.

Opposition party members and Bhopal lobby groups charged that the sum was too low.

India on Dec 1 filed criminal charges against Union Carbide, its subsidiaries and a number of executives, accusing them of homicide and causing injuries. Hearings on the criminal charges are not scheduled to begin until next year.

Watch movie, wife killer ordered

DEERFIELD BEACH, Florida, Dec 13. (AP): A judge has ordered a 77-year-old man who killed his wife and tried to kill himself to watch the movie classic "It's a Wonderful Life" as part of his sentence.

Philip Tiger admitted stashing his wife, Ruth, to death in February, then trying to kill himself. He was convicted of manslaughter on Friday and could have faced a seven-year prison term.

But Broward circuit judge Lawrence Korda sentenced Tiger to 30 days in jail, two years under house arrest, five years of probation and 500 hours of work in nursing homes.

Tiger also was told to watch the holiday movie starring American actor Jimmy Stewart. It was scheduled to air during the weekend on a local station.

In the movie, an angel prevents Stewart's character from committing suicide and shows him how difficult life would be for others without him.

Korda said after the hearing that he hoped the movie would show Tiger that life should be valued.

Tiger expressed remorse during Friday's hearing. "I had no right to do it," he said. "It's against the law to do anything like that."

He told Korda he had succumbed to his wife's plea to be killed. Mrs Tiger was not terminally ill but she had been depressed and feared she was going insane, according to court testimony.

Search suspended because of darkness

Philippine plane missing

MANILA, Dec 13. (AP): A Philippine Airlines plane with 15 people aboard disappeared today during a domestic flight to Mindanao island. A search for the aircraft was suspended because of darkness.

Jose Reyes, deputy operations chief of the Manila rescue coordinating center, said PAL flight 443 left Cebu airport early in the morning with 11 passengers and four crew members bound for Iligan city, some 240 kilometers to the south.

Airline officials said radio contact with the twin-engine SD-360 "Sunrise" was lost after pilot Capt. Roberto Sarenas radioed for a weather report 10 minutes before he was to have landed in the northern Mindanao city.

Officials said weather along the route was good, but the

government's weather service said there were isolated thunderstorms in the Iligan area about the time the plane was to have landed.

Search

Enrique Santos, PAL vice president for public relations, said air and ground search teams were sent to the area but called off the search because of darkness and bad weather. He said the search would resume at dawn Monday.

A passenger list released by the airline showed all those aboard had Filipino surnames except for one, a "John Richard Wood." The airline said it did not know Wood's nationality, but a Manila hotel where Pal said he had stayed told the Associated Press Wood registered as an Australian.

Reyes said the rescue center

had asked the US Air Force to join in the search. Maj. Thomas Boyd, spokesman for the US-run Clark Air Base, said a request for assistance was received late Sunday and that a US Air Force C-130 aircraft probably would be sent to the area early Monday.

In Zamboanga city, Brig. Gen. Rogelio Relova, commander of the 3rd air division, ordered rescue planes from Cagayan de Oro, 65 kilometres northeast of Iligan, to join in the search.

Military spokesmen said at least one UH-1 helicopter and one fixed wing plane had taken off from Cagayan de Oro but had reported no sightings.

PAL has four SD-360 aircraft that entered the fleet in May. The planes were leased from jet-prop of Ireland and were manufactured by the Shorts Brothers Ltd. of Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Deserter killed one, held 60

Seoul soldier surrenders

SEOUL, Dec 13. (AP): A South Korean Army soldier surrendered today after killing one man and holding about 60 people hostage for more than seven hours in a discotheque in the southern city of Pusan, police said.

Police said Choi-Man, 21, dropped his M-16 rifle and gave up early this morning. Choi, wearing a helmet and fatigues, had charged into the nightclub in the Haeundae resort last night, firing the automatic rifle.

About 40 of an estimated 100 people present escaped through a back door of the one-storey nightclub as Choi entered.

"Lie down and don't move," the soldier shouted as he ran around the dance floor, shooting about a dozen rounds into the ceiling, police quoted the witnesses as saying.

Police said many of the captives were teenagers.

During the seizure, the soldier drank beer, firing the rifle intermittently to keep police from approaching, police said.

Killing

A 19-year-old man was shot in the chest and died, and two club workers were among six people wounded, according to police. Choi also was armed with four grenades, police said.

"He surrendered after his mother had talked to him," said a police official.

He said Choi told police he was angry because he was suffering from a light case of hepatitis and was being teased by his fellow soldiers.

He rejected appeals by Army officers and other soldiers to

surrender. At midnight his mother and a brother went into the building to attempt to persuade him to give up, the Yonhap news agency reported.

Police said the gunman turned over two grenades through a female hostage after midnight.

Police officials said they interpreted that gesture as a sign that Choi might be willing to surrender, and immediately brought in his other.

Choi was identified as a member of the Defence Force, a subsidiary military organisation. Police could not immediately determine why Choi went on the shooting spree in coastal Pusan.

South Korea's second-largest city. He was hustled away in a police vehicle moments after releasing the hostages, the police said.

Third World women want to limit children

WASHINGTON, Dec 13. (UPI): Millions of Third World women want to limit the number or control the timing of their pregnancies but most lack access to family planning, the Worldwatch Institute said.

Although growth in the world's population has slowed since the 1970s from 2 per cent to less than 1.7 per cent per year, "annual additions to world population increased from 74 million in 1970 to 86 million in 1987," said Jodi Jacobson, author of a new study.

The study, "Planning the Global Family," said that if the needs of even half the women lacking access to family planning had been met, "annual additions to human population would now be falling instead of rising."

The Worldwatch study cited surveys showing that half the 463 million married women of reproductive age in developing countries outside China want no more children.

Millions more, it said, would like to delay their next pregnancy.

Family planning

"Yet, while the number of women in their childbearing years is increasing rapidly, few countries have put family planning at the top of their agendas," said Worldwatch.

The study also said only four developing countries have achieved replacement level fertility, or two children per family: Cuba, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan.

Nigeria may have re-polling

LAGOS, Dec 13. (Reuter): Voting in Nigeria's first elections since 1983 may have to be repeated in some areas, organisers said today after violence in Lagos and widespread theft elsewhere.

"It's most likely that in some places the elections will be held again," Eme Awa, chairman of the National Electoral Commission (NEC), told national television.

"The signs are that in some places the electorate has not been given a chance to express its wishes," Awa said during a break in an all-night talks to probe why millions of voters were turned away without casting votes.

Television reports from most

of Nigeria's 21 states spoke of voters being turned away, often queuing for up to 10 hours in the blazing sun, because of a shortage of ballot boxes and papers.

Turnout

Despite the confusion, a large turnout was reported in the election for councillors in the 301 local government areas and voting hours were extended.

Frustration turned to violence in some poor areas of Lagos. Vehicles were stoned and at least two policemen were beaten, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) said. Police used tear gas to disperse protesters.

One section of the main road in

Lagos was briefly taken over by stone-throwing youths who set up roadblocks. Protests flared elsewhere in the city after rumours circulated that polling officers conspired with candidates to rig results.

The Lagos state electoral commissioner, Kayode Cadmus, who appealed for calm, said there would be an inquiry before the election results were announced.

The military government of President Ibrahim Babangida has portrayed the non-party elections as the first important stage in a transition to civilian rule by 1992.

More than 13,000 candidates were standing as councillors.

Opposition may soon name person ...

(Continued from Page 1)

"The foreign hands who are at the back of this movement know that the strikes and violence will destroy our exports of jute and other commodities," Ershad told factory workers' rally in the eastern town of Kaliganj.

"Once this is accomplished, Bangladesh will be flooded with the goods from the countries they are working for," he said.

Most shops were closed during 12-hour strike yesterday and traffic was reduced to a few bicycle rickshaws and state-owned buses. Banks were open, but they had little business.

Police broke up a gathering of demonstrators outside a down town mosque to prevent them from holding a procession in violation of the emergency rules.

Police raided the staff quarters of the University of Engineering and Technology minutes after three small bombs were thrown in the area. Police said 11 people were detained for questioning.

Jorjin, 61, dies

HAVANA, Dec 13. (Reuter): Enrique Jorjin, considered the father of the Cha-Cha, died at his Havana home yesterday at the age of 61.

His death was reported by state-run Prensa Latina news agency, which gave no details.

Jorjin was a self-taught violinist whose career in music peaked in the 1950s, in pre-revolutionary Cuba, when he is said to have invented the rhythmic ballroom dance that became known as the Cha-Cha.

The dance is widely associated with Latin America.

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Call to improve living conditions of teachers

THE director of the Language Centre at Kuwait University has called on the Civil Service Council to look seriously into adjusting and improving the living conditions of its teachers.

She said the centre was now on the verge of losing its good inter-

national reputation because of the discouraging conditions of teachers.

She told a local newspaper that most Kuwaiti youths sent by the centre on scholarships left their job because of the working conditions and low wages, and the

centre's investment in them was wasted.

She said that the salaries at the centre were the lowest in the Gulf area.

Dr Najjar added that a large number of teachers had left.

Company for purchase and hire of aircraft planned

A vital Arab project

By Khafed Ahmad

THE chairman and director-general of the Royal Moroccan Airlines, Mohammad Mukwar, described the project for the establishment of an Arab company for financing the purchase and hire of aircraft as "one of the most vital Arab projects for the future of the Arab aviation industry."

He said that officials of leading Arab aviation establishments, airlines and Arab funds "supported the idea."

In an exclusive interview with the Seyassah newspaper, he said that Arab airlines and air cargo companies would need a large number of modern aircraft "in the next two decades", and the estimated cost would exceed \$40 million.

Some important results from establishing the finance company would be unification of specifications of aircraft used by Arab airlines, huge expansion in the Arab aviation industry, increase in the power of Arab negotiators with aircraft manufacturers, and enabling Arab airlines to contribute to Arab development plans.

Expansion
Mukwar said the application of new European and American specifications on ooise limits for aircraft "will not have a great effect" on Arab airlines because the Boeing 747 would not be affected, while the jet engines of the 707 could be replaced at a cost of about only \$3 million per aircraft and the engine of the 727 at a cost of about \$150,000.

He said the Arab aviation industry had achieved "good progress" in providing services but had not entered the field of repairing aircraft or making spare parts. He hoped such fields would be entered in the near future.

He said the Royal Moroccan



Mohammad Mukwar

Airline, which now owns a fleet of 23 modern aircraft, will, in the near future, implement an expansion project costing about \$1 billion for replacing Boeing 727s with modern aircraft in order to cope with the new era of Moroccan tourism.

Coordinate
He said his visit to Kuwait was to meet officials of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (Afesd) and discuss the project for establishing an Arab finance company for purchase and hire of aircraft. Afesd officials paid great attention to the proposal and he said he expected the fund to be the main supporter of the proposed company.

He said a meeting to continue discussions on the company will be held in January in Kuwait.

Arab airlines will be allowed to buy shares in the company.

One of the most important tasks of the proposed company would be the purchase of a number of modern aircraft, he said.

The company will coordinate with Arab airlines concerning the specification of aircraft and this will bring the airlines closer because they now have different types of aircraft.

Repair
In the future the company could venture into aircraft repair and manufacture of some spare parts, he added.

Mukwar stressed that the first step, "however small", was the most important one because it "will lay down the base."

He said he felt that most Arab officials were paying great attention to the project and there was a conviction that the company would be able to provide Arab airlines with modern aircraft at "reasonable prices."

He emphasised the "good economic feasibility" of the project.

He said a committee consisting of representatives of Kuwait Airways Corporation, Royal Jordanian Airlines and Royal Moroccan Airlines had been formed to follow up the formation of the proposed company with concerned Arab officials.

People urged to join charitable society

ABDUL Rehman Al Mazroui, the Assistant Undersecretary of Kuwait's Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour for Youth Affairs, has welcomed any citizen interested in joining a charitable society. He added that members would attend all of the society's meetings to direct the activities, offer proposals and advise board members.

Al Mazroui said that the ministry is evaluating the activities of the 54 charitable societies in Kuwait, specialising in cultural activities. He added that these societies offer donations to needy Muslims and that some even play a political and social role in the country.

Ardhiya telephone connection

A RESPONSIBLE source at Kuwait's Communications Ministry said that the ministry had begun connecting telephone service to the Ardhiya area and that houses in Block Six had been connected last week. The source added that the area of two thousand houses would be completed within the next two months.

King Hussein moves on to Muscat

ABU DHABI, Dec 13, (Kuna): The Jordanian monarch, King Hussein this evening concluded his brief visit to the United Arab Emirates and headed for Muscat on the fifth and last leg of his current Gulf tour.

King Hussein conferred with UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan.

Talks covered the situation in the Arab area, developments in the Gulf region and means of implementing and following up the Amman extraordinary Arab summit resolutions.

Training course

HEALTH Undersecretary Dr Nael Al Naqib yesterday opened a training course on latest developments in car surgery.

The four-day seminar, organised by the Kuwait Institute for Medical Specialties, will attempt to elevate competency of Kuwaiti medical cadres and exchange opinions between local and foreign doctors.

Specialists from the US, France, Northern Ireland and other doctors from Kuwait are attending the seminar.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audience

HH the Amir yesterday received in audience Sheikh Jaber Al Ali.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Arab solidarity stressed

THE Kuwaiti daily Al Rai Al Aam yesterday said that Arab fragmentation and dispersal is the sole reason for the superpowers' support for Iran in its continuing war against Iraq and that Arab solidarity remains the only sure answer.

Wondering how Iran could have carried its war with Iraq for more than seven years so far, the newspaper said that it is certain that the Khomeini regime has the support of some powers "despite the declared position of these powers which announce one stance and harbour a conflicting one."

"These powers found in Iran the best means of reaching their goals and objectives and were convinced that the declared Iranian attitude is the best indication of the strategy of these powers both in the foreseeable future and in their long-range policy," the daily said.

The newspaper cited Iran-gate, the recent French deal with Iran over the release of French hostages and the Chinese Silkorm deal with Iran and the Soviet Union's refusal to enforce implementation of Security Council resolution 598 as examples of the superpowers' support for Iran in its war with Iraq.

Al Rai Al Aam said that Iran, as a regional power, is incapable of challenging the whole world with all its institutions and public opinion. "There are powers that plan and design and even support Iran regardless of the declared policies of these powers which show the opposite of what they harbour and say the opposite of what they do."

"In short, the attitude of the superpowers toward the war, does not result from love for Iran, but is a sure consequence of the fragmented and dispersed Arab stance," the newspaper said concluding that "Arab solidarity alone is capable of imposing the Arab will on Iran and on the superpowers."

Palestinian operations highlighted

ANOTHER Kuwaiti daily highlighted the Palestinian resistance operations against the Israeli occupation, which surrounded Israel from land, sea and air for the first time in its 40 years of existence.

The first attack, Al Watan said in a front-page editorial, which took place recently on an Israeli maximum security camp. "Came in the form of a motorised hang-glider which carried three heroes, who understood the enemy's language and deal with him the way they should."

The second, the paper cited, was a daring sea assault against an Israeli warship, in which the Palestinians, the victims, defeated the Israelis, murderers.

The third and last attack came from land when Palestinians formed a front stretching from the tip of Gaza to oil of the West Bank. "An uneven confrontation," the daily noted, "in which Palestinians carried rocks, whereas the Israelis were armed with the most advanced US weapons."

The paper called on Arabs to learn a lesson from the rare will of the Palestinian people who have fought all kinds of oppression, but succeeded in grabbing the world's attention through these operations.

GULF PRESS

Popular uprising hailed

NEWSPAPER in the Arab Gulf states yesterday hailed the popular uprising currently under way in the occupied Arab territories.

The Saudi Al Madinah newspaper said the Israeli occupation authorities are daily committing crimes against the unarmed Palestinian civilians, ignoring all calls for peace by international and regional organisations and movements concerned with human rights.

The paper stressed that even if a resolution is considered by the UN Security Council to condemn Israel's practices in the occupied territories, such a resolution may face a veto from certain big powers, particularly the US which gives much attention to the rights of the Soviet Jews, but neglects the rights of the Palestinian human being who is suffering from the repressive Israeli occupation.

Al Riyadh newspaper said in a comment on the same issue that no force is able to strip the Palestinians from their identity or ignore their presence whether in war or peace.

The currently boiling situation in the occupied Arab territories and the daring commando operations against the occupiers that preceded and followed the current uprising confirm the fact that the generation which Israel thought had been stripped of its national identity, is finding itself unable to coexist with the occupiers, the paper said.

It predicted that the current escalation in the occupied territories might change into a long battle that takes an advanced form of resistance.

In Doha, the Qatari Al Raya newspaper said the iron fist policy which the government of Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir is enforcing on the Palestinians will not succeed in defeating the determination of the Palestinians to win their rights and end the occupation and establish the Palestinian state on the Palestinian soil.

The paper said the masses will give the evidence that Shamir has been dreaming when he declared that the Palestinians will receive nothing except sitting on the negotiation table, and those masses will in the end force the Israeli premier to bow to their will.

Another Qatari newspaper Al Arab said the popular uprising in the occupied territories is not a mere indication of the outright rejection of the Israeli occupation, but is the right way for the restoration of the occupied territories.

According to the paper, the Palestinian people under occupation have come to the conclusion that what had been usurped by force can only be restored by force.

The newspaper described the uprising as a message directed to the whole world urging the entire international community to intervene to put an end to the aggressive practices of the Israeli occupiers and to support the Palestinian struggle to restore their legitimate rights in their homeland.

Evaluation and standards centre

DR JASSEM Al Kandari, the Director of the Evaluation and Standards Centre at Kuwait University, said the centre is considered the first of its kind in the Arab world and that the centre was officially authorised by a number of international establishments to supervise the administration of professional tests, such as the TOEFL English language test, nursing tests and others.

He said that a specialist at the centre coordinates the testing process and sends test results to testing authorities for scoring and validation and then sends them to students.

Al Kandari said that the centre administered tests to about five thousand students annually for admission to graduate programmes, employment in the US and testing in other fields.

He added that the centre had prepared a special questionnaire for students to evaluate the proficiency of their professors using clearly defined criteria.

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Superpower summits fruitful if they help solve regional problems

Kuwait hails missile agreement

KUWAIT hailed yesterday the US-Soviet missile agreement signed last week but said the summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev would be viewed as a success only if it helped resolve the Gulf war and the Palestinian problem.

"Such superpower summits are fruitful if they contribute to solving regional problems," Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdel Aziz Al Rashed told reporters after the weekly cabinet session, presided over by HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah.

"Third World countries hope that their problems have not been forgotten because these issues will have repercussions on the international community," Al Rashed said.

"The superpowers and the UN Security Council should play a role in solving these problems," he said.

Priority

"We in this part of the world have our own problems which we believe should be given priority, be it the ongoing Iraq-Iran war, to which we call for a speedy solution, or the Palestine question," he added.

But he lauded the signing of the agreement eliminating intermediate-range missiles for "opening a new door" toward

easing international tension.

He said although the treaty covered elimination of only a limited number of nuclear weapons, "nevertheless (it) forms a step toward breaking the psychological barrier between the nations (the two superpowers)."

He said the US-Soviet discussions on the issue of human rights "implied that human rights is tailored only to include rights of the Jews and as if the cause of mankind is the emigration of Jews."

Consultations

"Are there not other people whose rights have been usurped, but rather have been deported from their own homeland?" He said, referring to the Palestinians.

Al Rashed said Kuwait feels strongly about the necessity of continuous consultations to reap the benefits of implementing resolutions of last November's extraordinary Arab summit in Amman.

Rashed also said the visit to Kuwait by King Hussein of Jordan produced constructive and fruitful results that fulfilled a desire of HH the Amir for stronger Arab relations.

Rashed pointed out that continued Arab contacts would help clear misunderstandings and put into effect the summit resolu-

tions calling for greater Arab cooperation and solidarity.

The Crown Prince briefed the ministers on the discussions here of King Hussein on Saturday with the Amir on Arab issues, Al Rashed said.

The state minister added that Sheikh Saad further acquainted the cabinet members with his talks with PLO chairman Yasser Arafat here last Wednesday and the positive results of Pakistan Premier Mohammed Khan Jurejo's recent visit to Kuwait.

Al Rashed said that State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Mohammed Al Osaime delivered a report on results of his Euro-American tour during which he met with the UN secretary-general and senior officials in the US and Britain on current Gulf and Arab developments in addition to means of upgrading bilateral relations.

Economic unity

Minister of Commerce and Industry Faisal Abdul Razak Al Khaled read out another report on outcome of the tenth GCC commerce ministers session, 8th meeting of the standardisation and measurements authority's board of directors, the second Gulf industrialists conference and the inauguration of the fourth GCC exhibition for domestic products which all took

place in Saudi Arabia, Al Rashed elaborated.

Another report was tabled by Public Health Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi on the 24th session of the Arab Gulf health ministers meeting in Manama and the higher authority for medical specialties held last week in Manama, the state minister noted, adding that minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Jaher Muharak Al Hamad briefed the cabinet on results of the 8th meeting of the Arab social affairs and labour ministers held last week in Tunis.

Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi reported to the cabinet on the 48th session of the Arab economic unity council in Amman and his meeting there with Jordanian officials and King Hussein during which he conveyed an Amir message dealing with Arab solidarity and joint action, he elaborated.

The cabinet then discussed a number of political issues including latest developments in the Arab and international arenas and reviewed in this respect reports on efforts to end the Gulf war, the state minister said.

Al Rashed noted that the cabinet approved a draft law on the side effect cooperation agreement between Kuwait and East Germany and referred it to the Amir Diwan.

Finnish-UAE joint committee

ABU DHABI, Dec 13, (Kuna): The Finnish-UAE joint committee today resumed deliberations of its second meeting here to discuss aspects of cooperation between the two countries.

The committee divided its work into two committees: the first will discuss agriculture, fisheries, municipalities, communication, trade, technology, investment and environment protection affairs.

The second committee was scheduled to discuss cooperation between the two countries in the health, public works, housing and civil defence fields.

The committee started its works here yesterday.

Gulf war poses a grave threat to marine environment: Awadi

MANAMA, Dec 13, (Kuna): Kuwait's Health Minister Abdul Rahman Al Awadi, today called for reaching an immediate solution to the Gulf war which he said constitutes a grave threat to marine environment, noting that the countries of the region are not capable of containing dangers of sea pollution caused by oil tankers hit in the Gulf.

Speaking to the Gulf News Agency in a report carried today, the chairman of the Regional Organisation for the Protection of Marine Environment (Ropme) admitted that the region's states cannot contain dangers of marine pollution

resulting from the attacks on the giant oil tankers in the area.

The Kuwaiti minister said Ropme has not registered any pollution cases in the Gulf so far because the present coordination between member states of the organisation enables them to keep the damage confined to a minimum.

He warned, however, that pollution can still occur particularly in the absence of a solution to the Iraq-Iran war and the attacks on oil tankers.

Pollution caused by a huge oil leak at a sea oil rig or a damaged oil tanker will be difficult to overcome in spite of all efforts and

combating techniques, Al Awadi said.

He noted that the region's countries, including Iran and Iraq who are Ropme members, besides the six Gulf Cooperation Council states, are only capable of combating marine pollution effects caused by ship sewage and leftovers.

He said such ship sewage in the Gulf waters in addition to the industrial leftovers is equal to 40-50,000 tons which is a dangerous problem in itself.

The Kuwaiti minister said the Gulf states are seeking international agreements that would prohibit ships from polluting the Gulf.

Exaggerating

In response to a question on the huge media coverage of the oil slick in the Gulf waters and the sudden media blackout of the problem, the minister said the media were exaggerating.

He added that from a business point of view, some parties fed the media with misinformation seeking to sell products to combat the inflated disaster. He noted that those companies or parties were trying to experiment with their products in oil-pollution related cases for the first time in the Gulf.

Al Awadi said Ropme members are coordinating to protect the region through issuing of new laws and regulations as well as training programmes to stop the environmental decline of the Gulf waters.

The minister who was in Manama heading Kuwait's delegation to the 24th session of the council of Arab Health Ministers which concluded yesterday, hoped that the Gulf war which he said poses a grave threat to the marine environment of the region would come to an end.

Seminar on animal health

DR Sultan Ahmed Sultan, the director of Animal Health at Kuwait's Public Authority for Agriculture and Fish Resources, said that the Animal Health Department had organised several meetings and seminars to acquaint people with the problems that occur in animal husbandry, especially diseases and means of treating them.

Dr Sultan said that the department is especially concerned about the poultry sector this year because of its importance to the food security of the country. He added that lectures on camel and sheep diseases had also been planned.

Fishermen warned

FISHERMEN have been warned to keep three miles away from Kuwait's coast and islands when fishing.

An official source at the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources said that those who disobeyed the warning would face penalties.



The State Minister for Housing Affairs and director of the National Housing Authority (NHA), Nasser Al Rodhan, has signed five contracts with a number of local companies. The contracts amount to KD52 million and include 1,200 government houses, mosques, essential services and a main centre for the Funtas west project. Picture shows Al Rodhan signing the contracts.

Jassar opens Charity Week

By Yousef Alawna

ON behalf of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Kuwait's Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Khaled Al Jassar opened the first Charity Week of the International Islamic Charity Authority (IICA), praising the establishment of the authority in Kuwait.

Minister Al Jassar said that the goal of the authority was to improve the condition of Muslims all over the world, adding that 80 per cent of Muslim communities suffer from poverty and that illiteracy in some Islamic communities reaches 90 per cent.

Al Jassar said that the authority is attempting to collect \$1 billion for Muslims around the world to help in its charitable projects. He added that the authority has carried out 59 projects in 13 countries at a cost of \$8 million. He added that the authority will soon open the first Islamic broadcast in Sierra Leone as one of their projects.

The minister said that the authority plans to launch donation campaigns for Muslims in other countries after the campaign is completed in Kuwait. He also said that the Qatari education minister has issued a resolution encouraging employees of the ministry to contribute to the authority's projects.

ABDUL WAHAB Al Haroun, the chairman of Kuwait's Public Transportation Company, said that the company had signed two contracts to build three vessels to work between Kuwait and Failaka Island, with one equipped to transport cars and goods and the other two designed to transport passengers.

He said that one contract was signed with a Singaporean company and the other with an Australian company.

Al Haroun added that the passenger vessel, which will begin transporting passengers next summer will be equipped with luxury facilities for passengers.

Pakistan school election

TWO members will be elected to the board of trustees of the Pakistan School Kuwait (Rumailhiya) on Dec 18.

Polling will be from 2 pm to 6 pm at the school premises and no voter will be admitted after 6 pm.

Special buses will be run to bring the voters from Ahmadi, Fabeel, Kheitan and Hassawi. The candidates are Badar Munir, Mohammad Saleem Anwar, Dr Hameed Afzal Malik and Dr Munir Ahmad Kazi.

Child killed

A KUWAITI child died in a traffic accident yesterday.

There were 11 traffic accidents in Kuwait, with five in the capital, one in Hawalli and five in Ahmadi.

Awqaf Ministry praised for paying air fares

By Lima Al Khalafawi

THE Philippines ambassador to Kuwait, Alunan Glang, praised Kuwait's Ministry of Awqaf for paying air fares to Muslim maids to return home.

Glang has himself contributed funds to send back Filipino detainees by the police. Some Filipinos had no money to buy tickets and the embassy, and Glang personally stepped in to help them.

Glang, who attended the regular get-together of Filipinos, Kumustahan, at the Church Hall, on Saturday said 90 per cent of the problems involved domestics, who amount to eight per cent of the total Filipino work force in the Gulf.

Help

Over 1,000 Filipino workers sought their embassy's help to get exit papers under the amnesty. A majority of the workers had not been paid salaries from between five to seven months. Travel documents were issued to those workers who had lost their passports.

Some 150 Filipinos attended the get-together and took part in various games, such as palayok, (passing the message) arranged for them.

Said Flasiak's vice president, Edna Tadamong: "Such gatherings give us a chance to meet our compatriots."

People responding to save energy campaign

RESIDENTS are responding to the energy consumption awareness campaign of the Ministry of Electricity and Water, the assistant undersecretary for administrative affairs, Sami Al Ibrahim, said.

He added that the average individual consumption recorded between 1977 and 1981 was 6.5 per cent and had dropped to 5.8 per cent for the period 1982-87.

The ministry will continue its guidance campaigns to achieve better results.

Al Ibrahim told a local newspaper that hiring of technicians from Arab states was a temporary measure. He added it was normal to hire foreign technicians because some operations required specialists and expertise not available in the local market.

Protected

These measures were temporary, however, because a plan had been agreed with the engineering college and applied institutes to cover the ministry's needs of certain specialties.

He said the average retirement rate for staff, especially technical staff, was normal.

The assistant undersecretary for power generation and water distillation affairs, Abdul Karim Al Mdayan, said that all stations and facilities were well protected and had total security. The existing systems were being improved to increase efficiency. The stations had their own fire fighting systems and checks.

Ground water

He said that all steam stations generate electricity and produce distilled water. The ministry intends to build water desalination stations using the reverse osmosis process in different areas and these will be separate from the power stations.

The director of water distribu-

tion, Suad Al Nasser, said the ministry intends to add fluoride to drinking water on instructions of the Health Ministry in order to protect the teeth of children. The fluoride concentration will not exceed limits agreed to by both ministries.

He said this will cost about KD 365,156,000 annually and water from ground wells will be one of the main sources of water for the national afforestation plan.

He said there were several areas with ground water wells. Sulabiya produced about 15,000,000 gallons daily. Shegaya about 60,000,000 gallons. Umm Al Gadair about 25,000,000 gallons and Al Wafra about 5,000,000 gallons daily.

Al Nasser added that the water reserves were sufficient for 50 years at current consumption rates. Studies were being made together with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research to find other methods to discover water.

Solar-powered helmet

RIYADH, Dec 13, (UPI): A schoolteacher in Saudi Arabia has developed a solar-powered anti-sunstroke helmet to protect outdoor labourers in the kingdom from the blazing summer sun, the English-language Saudi Gazette reported today.

Jeddah teacher Eisa Muhammad Al Sini dreamed up the helmet, which would feature a small fan and be powered by two solar units located above the ears of the wearer, the newspaper said.

During the long, scorching Saudi Arabian summer, temperatures as high as 45 Celsius (113 F) are common and manual work grinds to a virtual halt by mid-morning.

Rush for discount tickets

By Fathima Ahmed

A KAC official has admitted that there had been a lot of confusion and panic buying in the travel market.

Travel agents also said there was panic buying on Saturday, particularly on the Dhaka and Colombo sectors, due to reports that cut price tickets could not be purchased after Dec 12. The one-way air fare to Dhaka, which was KD 105, will rise to KD 130 when the new fare schedule comes into effect. Passengers to Colombo will have to pay KD 224 instead of KD 167 for a two-way ticket. On the Bombay-Delhi sector, travellers will have to pay KD 173 instead of between KD 126 and KD 150 they now pay on an open market.

Other sectors were not affected much. There was a rush for tickets at travel agencies with people trying to buy cut price tickets before the deadline.

Some 30 tickets to Dhaka were sold within a few hours, said Abdul Karim, senior sales officer of Burqan International Travels. Sri Lankans flocked to the Air Lanka office demanding discount tickets.

Valid

Cut price tickets would benefit a large number of illegal residents who will leave Kuwait under the amnesty, according to diplomats and travel agents.

In a telephone interview, a Kuwait Airways official yesterday confirmed that the cut price tickets can be sold this month and will be valid only if the passenger is flying out of the country before January 1, 1988, when the new fare schedule comes into effect.

Pressure

According to one travel agent KAC has given a verbal permission allowing them to sell cut price tickets until Dec 31. The new fare schedule and rules will be implemented in the New Year.

However discount tickets sold this month for travel next year, even on Jan 1, will not be valid. Due to the amnesty extension the pressure has eased on airlines, who are now trying to cope with the holiday traffic.

Air India's Customer Relations Manager George Tharakan said a total of 522 one-way ticket holders left for Bombay, Delhi and Trivandrum between Thursday and Saturday. However, 78 confirmed ticket holders did not turn up at the airport on Saturday morning, when Air India had an extra flight to Bombay.

Slackens

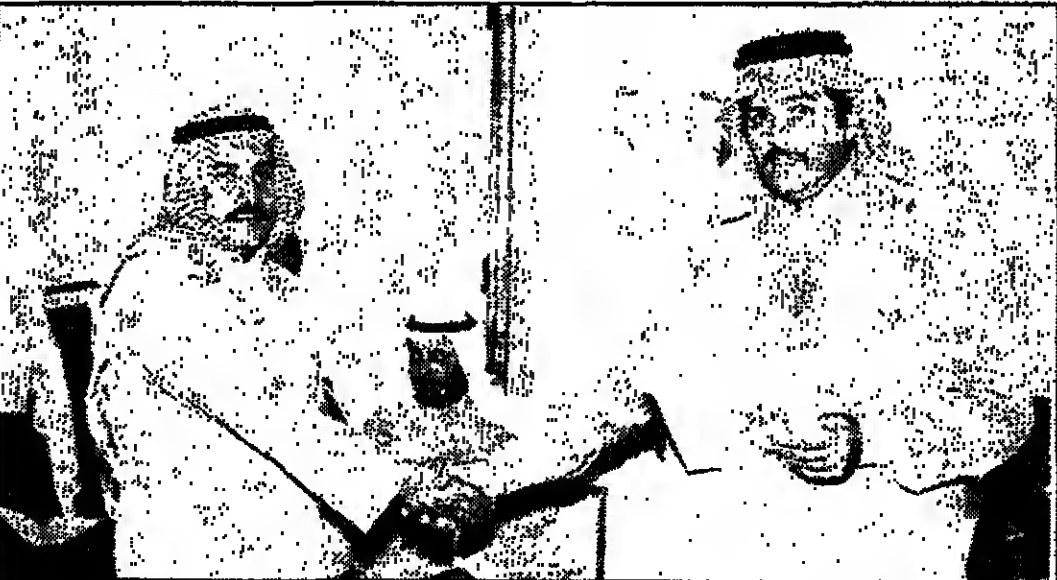
"Passengers must cancel bookings if they don't intend to fly instead of dropping out at the last minute and not turning up at the airport," said Tharakan.

Tharakan does not anticipate a heavy rush in January, as the traffic slackens on the Indian sector. "January does not collide with a peak holiday season like this month and we hope to accommodate larger numbers on our flights."

The winner of a game receives a prize at the Filipino get-together.



Filipinos get ready for games. (Photos by Javed Basra)



● The director of guards for outer areas at the Interior Ministry Colonel Assad Al Ali, has distributed rewards and letters of appreciation to officials in charge of seven centres as well as to a number of employees and labourers. The awards were for efforts in seizing the cars of smugglers and catching infiltrators. Picture shows the presentation ceremony.

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INDIAN VIDEO ROUNDUP

Bland stuff with hot sauce

Sridevi and Jeetendra in *Himmat aur Mehnat*.

By Fathima Ahmed

HINDI films from Madras are as idiosyncratic as the city itself. K. Bapiah's *Himmat aur Mehnat* lives up to the reputation, and a mixture of idiosyncrasy and a Madras style.

One third of the film makes a rather tentative appeal to revive morals. No more do girls run away with their beaus in two. The emphasis is on a woman's "pavitra" (chastity), which is promptly sullied by the hero, who as quickly makes amends by marrying the woman.

Thus starts the second half: mud-slinging episodes — the one about misgivings, misunderstandings, complexities, and doubts.

Bapiah's next whimsical task is to show the suffering of a proud woman, who puts up with her husband's cruelty, then takes refuge in a hut, penniless and all. We'll let you find out the silly reason for the husband's cruelty.

Music is an integral part of all Hindi films. We all know that. Nothing seems more amazing than the cheap lyrics penned by today's lyricists. For example: "Dilli (Dilli) roke roke, kakkatta (kakkatta) roke roke, main nahin rokunga." The off-key music is by that self-proclaimed music wizard of Indian pop — Bappi Lahiri. "Wedding nights call for special songs like 'Tuk tak deedaam dam, dham, dham-mumma' followed by 'Touch Me...'" And then there are separation and "look out for" songs. In this movie it says "Ammamama... himmat mai haroooooo." This number is for the kids.

The characters jerk their way through uninspiring dialogue, penned by that master of absurdity — Kader Khan, whose hair stands on end (literally) as the step-brother in the film.

Now for the good news. Sridevi plays Jyoti — and many of her male and female fans believe that a director can get away with every ridiculous situation — as long as Sridevi dances away her blues, preferably in the rain. They won't be disappointed. She also gives a tip, or two on morality, ethics and such sundry matters. Sridevi also puts at the right moments, smiles when told to and sobs at crucially tragic times.

Incidentally, Jeetendra, Shammi Kapoor, Shakti



Padmini Kolhapure

Kapoor, Divya Rana and Raj Kiran also star in *Himmat aur Mehnat*. Viewers must put their endurance skills to test to sit through this spicy pot-boiler. As a reward, you'll also see Poonam Dhillon.

Sadak Chaap
Rather than looking at the familiar situations in *Sadak Chaap*, let's examine the new touches. For instance, the deadly method of eliminating nosy employees. Now, as far as movies go, no one — that is until *Sadak Chaap*'s maker Anil Ganguly arrived — had thought of deep-freezing bodies. An ice factory run by Karma's (Amrish Puri) henchman, Goga, is an ideal place. So, one by one, they go into cold storage, only to reappear by the rivers of Goa the next morning. Don't even think about working out how the bodies disappear in Bombay and reappear in Goa. Now, this is not a suspense movie. It is a straight lost and found tale — this time told on the paved streets of a city, ruled by the unruly *Sadak Chaap*, nicknamed Shankar.

To enjoy the film, skip the first 20 minutes, the last 20 minutes, fast forward songs (you don't want to see the eerie sight of mannequins dancing on the beach? or do you?) and the frozen bodies in the ice factory. Well, you can watch the fights in the ice factory, provided you can endure Bombay Hindi slang: ex. Apun (I) etc.

Only one man survives the icy death — *Sadak Chaap*.

With super-human strength he manages to break the huge blocks of ice — with bare hands.

The *Sadak Chaap* is very much like a (ab)normal Hindi film hero, attacking the so-called politicians to expose their real business. Guess what? Drugs — cocaine. *Sadak Chaap* behaves rather normally and falls in love with two girls (Richa Sharma and Padmini Kolhapure) who stake their lives for him. One of them has to go. And Richa pops off. Padmini lives happily ever after — but not before the *Chaap* fellow finds his missing father, takes revenge, chases the arch enemy Karma — and settles a 20-year personal score.

Jackie Shroff had no trouble playing himself in *Sadak Chaap*. He seems comfortable in the role — even living in the sanitised pipes; swilling beer in seedy bars and taking revenge — an eye for an eye way. The comedy — the little that there is — is provided by Tiku Talsania, who has moved over from television into films. Tiku is very funny as the man on the run, who dreads *Sadak Chaap*, particularly at the time he plays dead to avoid the *Sadak Chaap*, one more stereotype following in the footsteps of hundreds of others before him. Jackie must get credit for rising above the tide to give a commendable performance.

One evergreen number from Hindi films is "Kasme waade pyar wafa..." from Manoj Kumar's *Upkar* sung by Manna Dey, who is now ignored by the likes of Bappi Lahiri. But many fans still remember Dey's unforgettable songs from films like *Basant Bahar*, *Dekh Kabira Roya*, *Chori Chori*, *Barsaat Ki Ek Raat*, *Meri Soorat Teri Aankhen* and many others. Over the years, Manna Dey has perfected his music and seems very much in form in *Manna Dey in Debut*, a recording of the concert presented by him in the Gulf.

Dey evokes many nostalgic memories. One song that is particularly good is "Laaga chunari mein daag", a semi-classical number. Those who enjoy good music from the golden years of Hindi film songs would enjoy this cassette. The video was made by amateurs — and it shows — but this is only a minor inconvenience, one dismisses after listening to Dey's rich, haunting voice.

For others, there is Mithun and Jaya — live on stage, a well-made video cassette of a charity show recently held in Bombay. Dance, songs and music are purely 1987 style with glitz and glamour thrown in for good measure.

The above films are available from Athari Video, Main St., Tel: 471-2900.

• All entries for the What's On column must be handed over personally to Events Section, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.



• Freemans of London, an independent mail order company, has appointed an agent in Kuwait to improve their services to international customers. Freeman's catalogue contains full details of how to order with a size guide in English and Arabic. Orders are delivered within two to three weeks. Pictured is a dress shown in the catalogue.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Sultan Gallery
Exhibition of *Prisse D'Avenues L'Art Arabe* (1877) from Dec 15, 9 am to 1 pm and 5 to 8 pm, at the Sultan Gallery, Al Snor St.

THEATRE

Ahmad Music Group
The group will hold the Annual Carol Concert at K.L.T. Ahmad, on Dec 13 and 14 at 8 pm. For reservations call 3983964.

Gift Box
Kuwait Players' seasonal music show Gift Box will be performed at a local hotel at 7.30 pm on Dec 13 and 14 and at 5 pm on Dec 15. For reservations phone 5730641 or 5743888.

SOCIAL

Pre-Christmas

bowling games
Three pre-Christmas bowling games will be held at 300 Club, Silver Tower on Thursday 6.30 pm and Friday 4.30 pm. For registration (men and women) contact Manny Inserto at 300 Club, behind US Embassy. Last date for registration is Dec 16.

Weekend Club
The Weekend Club will host "Countdown with Rothmans" at the Regency Palace Hotel on New Year's Eve with two of Kuwait's popular bands in attendance. Highlights will be the selection of the couple of the year. Contact Raven — 2401804.

Victory Day
A flag hoisting ceremony will be held at the Bangladesh Embassy, Jabriya, on Dec 16 at 9 am to mark Victory Day. All Bangladeshis are requested to attend.

The Bangladesh Association will hold a cultural evening on Dec 18 at 5.30 pm at the auditorium of the Sharq Cooperative Society to celebrate Victory Day. All are welcome.

Moods and Melody
"Passage to Music Time" is the title of a concert of Hindi, Malayalam and Tamil film songs, which will be presented by Moods and Melody at the Labour Union Hall on Dec 18, 5.30 pm. Tel: 4338579 for details.

K.O.S.A.
Kuwait Offshore Sailing Association (K.O.S.A.) will hold their re-scheduled annual general meeting on Tuesday, Dec 15, at the Fahheel Sea Club. Registration begins at 1930 hours in the sailing room. For details phone David Clark — 4845171 (office) or 3942576 (home).

Children's Party
Children's Party will be held at Messiah beach Hotel on Dec 17, 3 pm. Fancy dress and many festive games.

ASK Alumni Dinner

Friends and graduates of the American School, Kuwait, will hold an alumni dinner at Regency Palace Hotel, on Jan 3. The Arabic buffet will begin at 8 pm. For details phone Mrs Suzy Jones — 5314568.

Software Exhibition

The British Council, Mansouriya, will hold an exhibition of books and software "Science and Maths through Microcomputers" from 9 am to 12 noon and 5 to 8 pm, until Dec 17.

Malayalee Drama

Vishwabharati Theatre, Abbasia, will present a Malayalee Drama, written by Thomas Perumilly, on Dec 25, at the Indian Embassy auditorium.

Hash House Harriers

Annual festive get-together on Dec 16, Wednesday, 7.45 pm for 8 pm. For reservations contact Hash secretary — 3949848; 3942453.

HOTELS

At the Meridian

Versailles is open for lunch and dinner offering a selection of continental cuisine; a selection of meats and seafood char-coal, grilled to perfection; plus an affordable business lunch with three choices.

At Waha in the Sahlia Complex is a convenient meeting place in town offering food and beverage service.

At the Hilton

Failaka on the 19th floor, offers a specially menu featuring a carefully selected dishes; a whole range of chef's recommendations ranging from appetisers to desserts are also featured. Open daily, except Friday, for lunch and dinner.

At the SAS

Experience the exotic charm of the Orient at the Sahar Al Khema night, held every Tuesday from 7.00 pm, in the SAS Hotel. The Arabian Bazaar features perfumes, jewellery, clothes and rugs; buffet dinner and live music.

At the Sheraton

Enjoy Italian cuisine in the Riccardo Restaurant in the evening, with music by the Moonlight Duo.

Dine in the Hunt Room

live music by the gypsy band, Camerata. For lunch, Hunt Room offers a la carte.

At the Holiday Inn

Al Dana features special businessmen's lunch offering Arabic or European main course, sweet and salad buffet and tea or coffee.

SPORTS

Kuwait Nomads

Rugby Club

Arrangements for this week: Sunday — training as normal at 7.30 pm.

Tuesday — Chairman's XV vs Captain's XV. Kick off — 7 pm, all players at the ground by 6.45 pm.

Thursday — Christmas fancy dress party. For details phone Ron Hughes — 5630113.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News via Satellite
- 3.30 Cartoon Serial
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.45 La Ilaha Illallah: historical serial, featuring Yusuf Shabban, Hala Fakher, Raghdha
- 5.30 Mama Anisa and Children
- 6.00 Dirasat Taqniya: Technology Today, Educational.
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.05 Weekend: repeat
- 7.35 Quran and Science: hosted by Dr Ahmad Shawki Ibrahim.
- 8.15 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Ghaddan Tadaq Al Ajar: Arabic serial, starring Salah Saadani, Hina Tharwath.
- 10.50 Abu Al Fuloos: last episode of local serial, featuring Ghanem Al Saleh, Hayat Al Fahd, Mohammad Jaber.
- 11.45 News Summary
- 11.50 World News via Satellite
- 12.30 Holy Quran, Closedown



Adderly, at 10.30 pm on KTV 2.

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Paw Paws: cartoons
- 6.30 Animal Express
- 7.00 Roving Report: round-up of world news
- 7.30 Webster: "Good Grief". Webster plans to take Katharine to a party...
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 American Basketball
- 10.00 The Last Frontier: "King of the Arctic." A look at the white

Arctic bear. Adderly: "Brotherly Love." Adderly is told to look after Greenspan's sister, who is an active member of Amnesty International.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite' Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

Morning

- 08.00 Opening
- 08.02 Songs and Music
- 08.05 Science Journal
- 08.20 Songs and Music
- 08.30 News
- 08.40 Songs and Music
- 08.45 Daily Programme
- 09.00 Songs and Music
- 09.15 Writers and their Works
- 09.30 Radio Magazine Supplement
- 10.00 Our Press Today
- 10.05 Songs and Music
- 10.30 Songs and Music
- 11.00 Closedown
- 11.30 News on the FM Service.

Evening

- 21.00 Opening
- 21.02 Bits and Bites
- 21.30 News
- 21.45 Point of View
- 21.55 Songs and Music
- 22.00 Facts about Zionism
- 22.15 Magazine Special
- 22.45 Daily Programme
- 23.00 Full Mel
- 24.00 Closedown

FM Services

- 08.00-08.30 Easy Listening
- 08.30-08.40 News
- 08.40-10.00 Easy Listening
- 10.00-10.30 Songs and Music
- 10.30-10.40 Easy Listening
- 10.40-11.00 Easy Listening
- 11.00-11.30 Latin American
- 11.30-11.40 News
- 11.40-12.00 Easy Listening
- 12.00-12.30 Classical Music
- 12.30-13.00 Easy Listening
- 13.00-13.30 Latin American
- 13.30-14.00 News
- 14.00-14.30 Easy Listening
- 14.30-15.00 Classical Music
- 15.00-15.30 Easy Listening
- 15.30-16.00 Latin American
- 16.00-16.30 News
- 16.30-17.00 Easy Listening
- 17.00-17.30 Classical Music
- 17.30-18.00 Easy Listening
- 18.00-18.30 News
- 18.30-19.00 Easy Listening
- 19.00-19.30 News
- 19.30-20.00 Easy Listening
- 20.00-21.30 News
- 21.30-21.45 News
- 21.45-22.00 News
- 22.00-23.00 Jazz
- 23.00-24.00 Easy Listening
- 24.00-02.00 Instrumental Listening

PRAYERS

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| Fajr | 5.10 am |
| Zuhr | 11.43 |
| Asr | 2.33 pm |
| Maghreb | 4.52 |
| Isha | 6.14 |

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Salmiya and Rumaythiya
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Al Khaitan Pharmacy
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Jackie Shroff stars in *Sadak Chaap*.

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

FASHION is a form of ugliness so intolerable that we have to alter it every six months — Oscar Wilde, Irish-born writer (1856-1900)

OPINION

Hussein playing a great role

PERHAPS for the first time in the history of Arab summits the resolutions of the Amman summit will be followed up because of the Jordanian monarch King Hussein Bin Talal, who not only succeeded in bringing Arab leaders together after a painful period of disunity, but is also enthusiastically following up the resolutions passed at the summit.

The King succeeded in holding the summit in spite of being exhausted by the burden of the Arab problems, which began as early as the 1960s when pressure increased against the kingdom, as if it alone shouldered the Arab blame, while others who bought faulty arms and those accustomed to political rhetoric appeared unconcerned.

Arab meetings usually begin with talk about the positive results of the meeting on the first day. Talks with differing opinions begin on the second day and by the third day of the meeting, Arabs return to the same stance they held before the meeting, with all their differences and disputes, as though the meeting had never been held.

The Amman summit was different in many ways and the follow up by the Jordanian monarch will be recorded as typical of the realistic and logical Jordanian policy which is close to the Palestinian issue.

For five years all were bemused by the King's shuttle visits, thinking that he was "planting the sea to harvest the storm." He did plant the sea, but to harvest the Amman meeting, which no one can deny was an achievement. The King continues to harvest through his shuttle visits to Arab capitals, strengthening what was already accomplished.

The meeting itself is not important — the agreement arrived at during the summit and what it can accomplish in realising Arab ambitions is.

To strengthen, or even improve, the agreement reached at the summit should be the aim of Arab leaders if they really want their people to come together with common political and economic interests.

History will one day remember the tremendous role played by King Hussein in shouldering the problems of his people. Even now one has only to look at the face of King Hussein to see the toll these problems have taken on his health.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Spectre of coup looms over Bangladesh

By Hasan Saeed

DHAKA, (AP): An opposition political campaign has turned into a month of strikes, rallies and violence that may thrust Bangladesh back into the cycle of coups and chaos that has been its fate for most of its 16-year history.

Some blame President Hussain Mohammad Ershad for refusing to deal with the opposition demands soon enough. Others blame opposition leaders for refusing to negotiate with Ershad.

Regardless of who is responsible, many people fear there will be another of the military takeovers that have marked every change of government in Bangladesh, one of the world's poorest countries.

What has brought Bangladesh to the doorstep of another coup is a campaign to oust Ershad, led by Sheikh Hasina of the Awami League and Begum Khaleda Zia of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

Since the movement began Nov. 10, about 30 people have been killed by security forces, more than 2,500 have been arrested and the capital of Dhaka and other large cities have been virtually shut down by general strikes.

Loss
The government estimates the country is losing nearly \$50 million a day from lack of production and exports, an amount that could mean disaster for Bangladesh, one of the world's poorest countries.

Eighty per cent of the nation's 105 million people live below the poverty line, defined as being able to afford a diet of 1,800 calories daily.

Eighty-five per cent, or \$1.4 billion, of its funds for development comes from foreign aid, much of it from Japan and the United States.

Ershad, 57, who took power in a bloodless coup in 1982, responded to the calls for his ouster by putting the two opposition leaders under house arrest, then by declaring a state of emergency on Nov. 27.

Worsening
The former general has moved in the past few days to compromise. Last Tuesday, he dissolved Parliament and promised new legislative elections. On Thursday, he released Hasina and Begum Zia from 30 days of detention.

But Sadeq Khan, a political communist, says those moves came too late.

Ershad could have entered into dialogue with the opposition immediately, instead he ridiculed the opposition," Khan said.

A Western diplomat, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Hasina and Begum Zia's refusal to negotiate — resented when their house arrest ended — is worsening the crisis.

"By refusing to talk to the government and participate in any election held under Ershad, the opposition has greatly complicated the situation and eliminated options for a peaceful resolution," the diplomat said.

Both women could have foreseen the possibility of a coup. Hasina is the daughter of Sheikh Mujib, Bangladesh's first President who was killed in a military take-over in 1975.

Begum Zia is the widow of Gen Ziaur Rahman, who came to power after a 1976 coup and died in yet another coup in 1981.

Emotional
But Ershad's Information Minister, Anwar Zahid, believes that the campaign does not have to end in a replay of history.

"I am certain that today or tomorrow the opposition will sit down to talk business with the government," he said. "Their refusal to talk immediately on their release, was more of an emotional outburst than a pragmatic response... more a showing of teeth than biting."

An Asian diplomat, requesting anonymity, also said that "friendly sources" are pressuring the women to compromise.

"We don't want martial law again," said Ahmed Ali, a government critic. "We liberated the country 16 years ago to live a decent and democratic life. There has already been military rule in this country for more than nine years. Enough is enough."

Discussion
But people already are discussing whether a new round of military rule will be brief or lengthy.

"If martial law comes, it may be for a short period, mainly for holding elections and ensuring a peaceful transfer of power to the majority party," said one opposition leader who spoke on condition of anonymity. "After all," he added, "the Army is part of the people and they jolly well know the sentiments of the masses."

Critics say much remains to be done

Dramatic change in Soviet human rights policy

By Mary Ellen Bortin

MOSCOW, (Reuters): One year ago, the Soviet Union marked International Human Rights Day by proposing a Moscow conference on humanitarian issues — and simultaneously sparked a world outcry by reporting the death of a dissident in jail.

Nine days later, on Dec. 19, 1986, the authorities announced the impending return from exile of dissident physicist Andrei Sakharov, launching a year of dramatic change in Soviet human rights policy.

While Western and domestic critics say much remains to be done, the record shows the authorities have re-evaluated policies on confinement of dissidents, emigration and freedom of speech and are considering making some changes into law.

"I believe very important changes have taken place in the past year," Sakharov, 66, told Reuters by telephone from the Moscow flat where he has lived since returning from exile in the

closed city of Gorky last December.

"About 200 prisoners of conscience have been released from camp and other places of detention," he said. "There have also been positive changes in emigration and travel abroad."

Exile

Sakharov, seen as the spiritual father of the dissident movement of the 1970s, spent nearly seven years in exile as the Kremlin cracked down on dissent under former leader Leonid Brezhnev. His confinement sparked world protest.

There was another outcry last Dec. 10 when Soviet officials reported that dissident writer Anatoly Marchenko had died in prison of a brain haemorrhage. His wife later said she had learned he died following abuse by prison staff.

The first sign of change came with Sakharov's return to Moscow two days before Christmas last year. Since then, leading dissenters including psychiatrist Anatoly Koryagin and activist Iosif Begun have been freed.

More Jews have been allowed to leave the Soviet Union this year than at any point since 1981. Emigration has also increased sharply for Armenians and ethnic Germans.

Last July, Crimean Tatars were allowed to stage an unprecedented 24-hour protest on Red Square to press their demand to return to their historic homeland.

Independent publishing ventures have sprung up, and while the editors have faced occasional harassment they have also been able to continue printing their journals.

Jailed

Officials have said laws under which thousands of dissidents were jailed over the past 30 years were likely to vanish under a revision of the Soviet criminal code. There have also been signs of a re-think on psychiatric abuses.

The changes coincide with a quickening of the Kremlin's "glasnost" policy for greater openness in the press.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev says his reform programme

of "perestroika" hinges on the twin planks of economic change and broadened democracy for Soviet society.

Sakharov, who has publicly supported some of Gorbachev's policies since his return from exile, remains critical of Soviet handling of various aspects of human rights.

"Many prisoners of conscience remain — how many I can't say. Their release is very important, obligatory," he said.

Sakharov said the fact that dissenters released this year had not been officially rehabilitated created difficulties for them. In some cases, those freed have not been issued with residence permits and have been threatened with arrest.

He said not enough change had been made with regard to Soviet travel abroad, for emigration or other purposes.

"Laws have not been adopted to ensure people can remain Soviet citizens with a free choice of their country of residence," Sakharov said.

Statutes barring travel by people who once had access to state

secrets have prevented Sakharov, a Nobel peace laureate, from accepting invitations from numerous foreign countries.

"So far I do not have permission to travel abroad, on the grounds of secret work I did about 20 years ago," Sakharov said. But he added that he believed the controversial state secrets issue would be settled sooner or later.

Permission

Begun, who plans to leave for Israel in January after a 16-year battle to emigrate, remains pessimistic about progress.

"You have to distinguish between real change and window-dressing," he said. "Unfortunately I must say that so far there has been much more window-dressing than real positive change."

Begun said the rise in Jewish emigration to more than 7,000 this year remained far below the 1979 peak of 51,000.

He said other Jewish activists say 20,000 are awaiting exit visas. Soviet officials say this figure is vastly inflated and only

about 200 Jews are waiting to leave.

The Jewish emigration issue has grabbed headlines in the past week as demonstrations by small groups whose visa requests have been turned down were suppressed by police.

Taking a tough approach during Gorbachev's visit to Washington for his third summit with US President Ronald Reagan, the authorities have also banned an independent seminar on humanitarian issues scheduled for Human Rights Day.

On Thursday, when the authorities planned to hold official human rights meetings, four people were detained when they displayed posters calling for freedom of emigration on the steps of the Lenin Library in central Moscow.

Kremlin officials, who implicitly acknowledged problems remain by setting up an official body to monitor human rights this month, counter that Western countries have their own rights problems in the form of homelessness and unemployment.

Swedes compete with superpowers in the air

By Fiona Leney

OPPING, Sweden, (Reuters): Neutral Sweden is developing a fighter jet which will take aerial warfare to new frontiers of technology, maintaining the country's surprising reputation for trail-blazing advances in military airpower.

The J 39 Gripen, unveiled earlier this year, is considered by aviation experts to be one of the world's most advanced multi-role fighters.

"We need this plane to maintain a convincing defence posture and give teeth to our neutrality policy. We can't rely on others for our defence," said a senior defence official.

It makes Sweden, with its population of eight million, the only nation apart from the two superpowers and France committed to producing its own jet fighters into the 21st century.

Britain, West Germany, Italy and Spain plan to cooperate on a new plane, while Israel had to scrap its Lavi fighter earlier this year when costs went too high.

A prototype of the Gripen, produced by car and aircraft maker Saab-Scania, was rolled out last April.

Help
The Saab group, the only car-maker in the world to make planes, has turned to other Swedish companies such as Volvo and Ericsson for technical

help on aspects of the plane. The 42 billion crown (\$7 billion) project is the largest defence contract ever undertaken by Swedish industry.

The result should be a small, lightweight but heavily armed multi-role plane capable of taking off and landing on country roads and requiring minimum maintenance.

"There is more and more going for multi-role aircraft. We certainly intend to export it," project head Tommy Iversson told Reuters at the small airfield in the central Swedish town of Linköping where the plane is being built.

The makers believe the plane will also be attractive to small nations, mainly in Europe, looking for a cheap plane which can patrol but which can also double as a fighter/bomber.

The Gripen, Swedish for griffin, is named after the legendary half eagle, half lion, symbolising its hybrid nature.

But the project has had teething problems.

Iversson told Reuters the plane was already about six months behind schedule due to problems testing its highly sophisticated control system.

The so-called fly-by-wire system allows the pilot to control the plane through 35 onboard computers.

The system is made by US group Lear-Siegler in California, and Saab engineers say that

every time a hitch is discovered, the distance between producer and test rig makes both communications and transport of parts lengthy and difficult.

"But only the United States has this technology at the moment so we have to rely on them. We have 18-hour testing days so that the plane can fly as scheduled in mid-1988," said Bengt Litke, the Gripen's flight test manager.

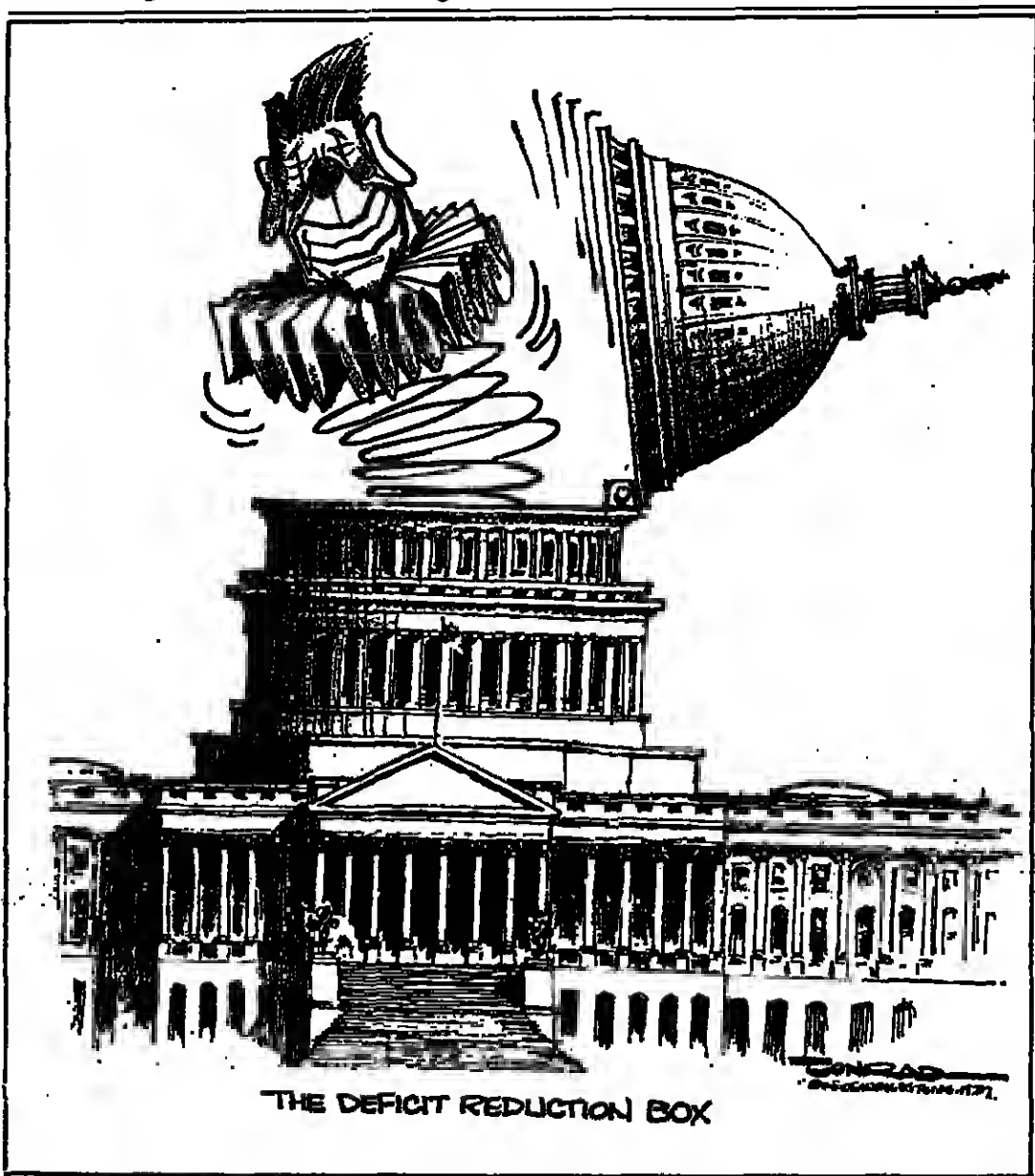
The plane, which also benefits from recent advances in composite materials lighter than steel, is scheduled to enter Swedish Air Force service in 1992.

"We are trying to pack a lot into a very small space. It is fairly difficult to make such a little plane work," Iversson said.

Cost
The specifications provided by the air force call for the plane to have only half the weight and half the development cost of Saab's last generation fighter jet, the Viggen.

The complexity of the Gripen, with its advanced control system, has made for considerable birth pains, although Iversson says that ultimately the plane's pilot will reap rich benefits.

"It is a very complex machine. There are few, if any, planes flying on digital computers at the moment. But that actually makes it easier to fly — the pilot gets the help of 35 onboard computers," said Iversson.



Romanian workers face tough winter

By Patricia Koza

BRASOV, Romania, (UPI): December's darkness crept quickly over the Transylvanian Alps last week, shrouding this central Romanian city well before the final whistle blew for the day shift at the Red Flag truck plant.

But as the workers trudged toward their chilly, dimly lit flats, the lights along boulevard Georgeiu-Dej and other main thoroughfares were brighter than usual, and there was more food in the shops.

The workers' protests that swept Brasov last month had — for now, at least — produced some results.

There was still no meat in the shops, of course, beyond some frozen turkeys. A Red Flag worker laughed at such a suggestion with the crack, "this is Romania."

And for most of the country's 23 million citizens, December brought nothing more than another winter of discontent.

Long lines in front of sparsely stocked shops. Rations. Two hours of TV a day. Damp, chilly apartments, only one 40-watt bulb permitted per flat. Three and 1/2-hour school days. Negotiating darkened streets with a flashlight — if one is fortunate enough to possess batteries.

"If we had meat, we would be almost as well off as during the war," goes the Romanian joke.

Failed
A failed harvest, combined with more severe energy cutbacks, could make it the bitterest winter since World War II for Romania, according to interviews with government and party officials.

Western diplomats, workers and residents of Brasov and Bucharest, the capital 100 miles (160 km) to the south.

Like the rest of Eastern Europe, Romania — under the tight control of President Nicolae Ceausescu — is in turmoil over how to salvage its mismanaged economy.

In Yugoslavia, Hungary and Poland, the communist governments have decreed drastic price hikes. The result was a round of buying sprees last month that temporarily cleared shelves of some basic foodstuffs and other coveted goods such as refrigerators or colour TVs.

Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria are still groping for a policy to pull their economies out of the doldrums.

But as a result of the recent events in Brasov, the Romanian Communist Party could also be faced with its greatest political challenge as it gathers for an important three-day party conference opening today.

A month ago, 10,000 workers angry over the food and energy shortages, as well as pay cuts and threatened layoffs, stormed Communist Party headquarters and city hall in Brasov, a bustling industrial and mountain resort centre of 300,000.

They set fires, looted stores, and marched through the streets shouting, "Death to Ceausescu," and singing the patriotic song, "Romanians Awake."

Burnt

"It was a fantastic fire," recalled one resident who watched it from his home four miles away. "I hear they burnt a portrait of our beloved leader," he added with a smile.

The tone of the demonstration was unprecedented in the Warsaw Pact's most rigidly governed state. Although reports have filtered out of spontaneous strikes in the past year in Bucharest and at least three other major cities, all were purely food and wage protests.

"This was unparalleled," said a Western diplomat. "Brasov is considered really different because it had political overtones."

As with the other protests, party leaders quickly restored the pay cuts. More food appeared on store shelves within 48 hours. Lighting was restored to some streets darkened for years by the energy cutbacks, according to residents who talked with the first Western

correspondents to visit the city since the protests.

But 60 to 70 of the 200 people rounded up for questioning after the protest remain unaccounted for, the sources said.

"We don't expect to see them again," said one plant worker.

On Dec. 2, in the first official acknowledgement of trouble at the plant, Brasov officials announced they had fired the management and transferred the protesters to "other places."

Nevertheless, the worker said, the protesters considered themselves successful.

"We know we can do it again," he said quietly.

That is what worries the Communist Party.

Warned

In an unusually frank interview, a veteran party member and former ambassador to the United States and United Nations, Silviu Brucan, warned the party leadership to avoid mass repression and to confront the legitimate needs of the people.

His call to reassess the country's long-standing policy of high industrial production at the expense of basic consumer needs is believed to have a measure of support among some party officials who privately oppose the autocratic policies of Ceausescu.

The extent of such support may be determined at this week's conference, the mid-session point between the party's important party congresses every five years.

If the economic situation is critical in the rest of Eastern Europe, it can be described as aghast in Romania, which has one of the lowest living standards on the continent.

For the last several years, Ceausescu's policy has been to put the bulk of national resources into paying off a \$12 billion foreign debt. The money was borrowed in the 1970s for costly and ill-timed investments, such as steel production just as the world market for steel was collapsing.

Poverty is root of Sri Lankan troubles

By Jeremy Clift

COLOMBO, (Reuters): Shantha Fonseka, a young transport board employee, was stripped of his watch, gold chain and cash by a gang of four as he lay bleeding in the dirt after a car bomb attack in Colombo.

In refugee camps to the north, authorities said they ordered a clampdown after racketeers were reported to be hunting for babies who could be sold for adoption.

A rising tide of crime in Sri Lanka is being linked to the island's four years of ethnic bloodshed.

Officials say drug trafficking and drug abuse have become major problems since 1980, with the trade connected to organised criminal syndicates and Tamil guerrilla groups.

Extortion and armed robberies have increased on the back of political violence and rising unemployment.

"The gun and the bomb are the new paths to quick money and power," declared former Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike.

The government sees poverty and unemployment, particularly among the young, as the key underlying reasons for the political unrest and accompanying crime wave.

According to official figures, unemployment is running at 18 per cent, with unofficial tallies putting it as high as a quarter of Sri Lanka's workforce.

Poverty
"Seventy per cent of the cause of youth restlessness is this poverty and unemployment," said Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa.

Guerrilla bloodshed, he said, was being fuelled by poverty. Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel, announcing the budget for 1988, detailed a programme of tax changes and economic reforms to create 500,000 new jobs over three years.

"This is the only way we can solve the problems of youth unrest and create the necessary conditions for political, econ-

omic and social stability in Sri Lanka," he said.

The government believes the lack of jobs has enabled guerrilla groups, both in the north and south of the island, to recruit. Most of the guerrillas are school drop-outs in their teens or early 20s.

In the north and east of Sri Lanka, the government faces a rebellion by Tamil militants demanding a separate state. The rebellion is now being put down by Indian forces.

Killings
In the south, Marxist extremists from the banned People's Liberation Front, which launched a rebellion in 1971, have been blamed for a series of killings and bomb attacks.

Government officials say the unrest has encouraged gangs to cash in on the violence under the guise of politics.

Tamil civilian leaders in the northern town of Vavuniya said in interviews that some Tamil guerrilla groups were hijacking vehicles, robbing houses and snatching jewellery. "They are trying to get rich quick and leave before the bloodshed ends," said one Tamil lawyer.

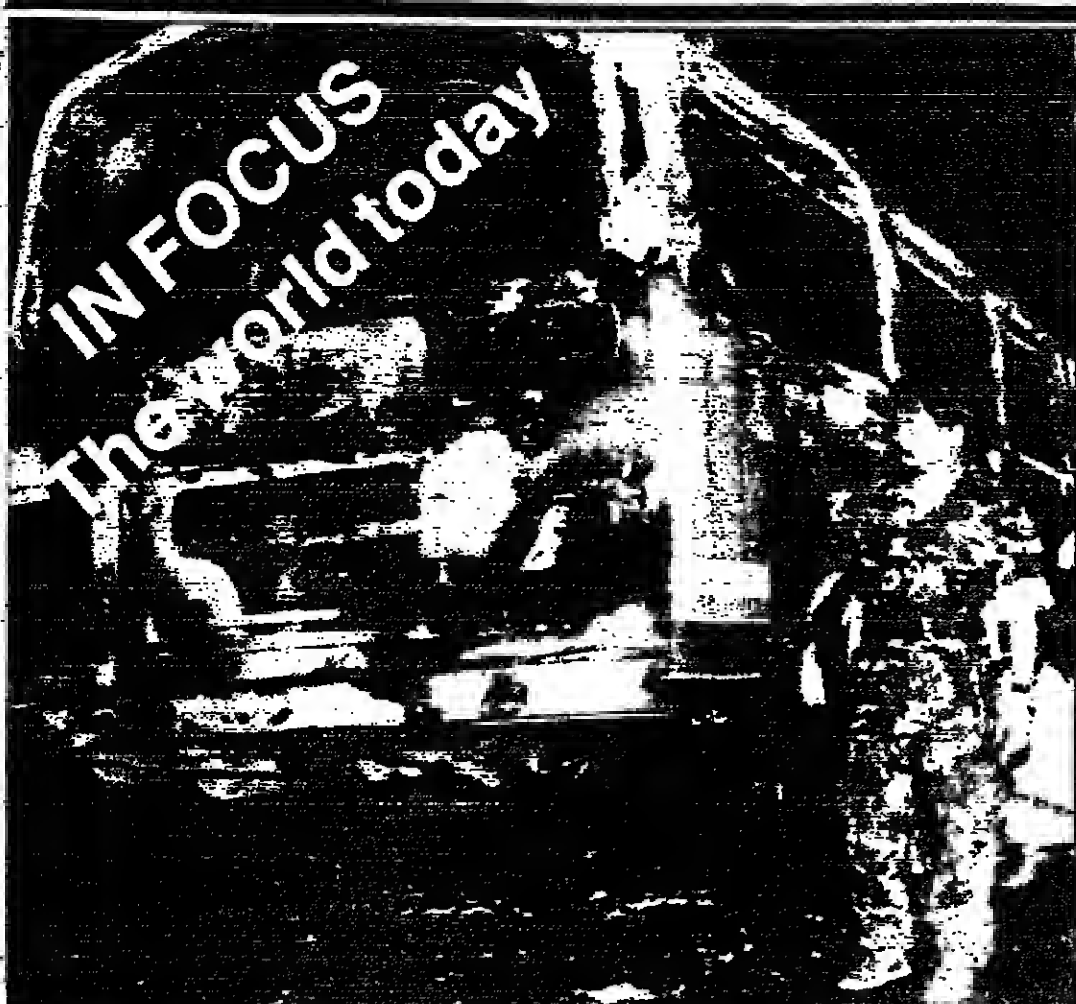
In the south, Bandaranaike accused the government of adding to the spiral of unrest by arming its own supporters.

In a statement, she blamed the frustrations of youth partly on the failure of President Junius Jayewardene's government to hold parliamentary elections for 10 years. He extended the life of parliament in a 1982 referendum.

Bandaranaike's opposition Freedom Party charges that misguided government policies helped the rich and ignored the poor, fostering conditions for unrest.

The government rejects the accusations, saying Bandaranaike's socialism crippled the country.

But amid the rhetoric lies a common belief among both the government and opposition that boosting living standards is the key to peace.



A SOLDIER stands guard over a bus which was burned in a raid by 40 anti-government guerrillas on a constabulary station in Muninlupa, a suburb of Manila, on Saturday. The attack comes only two days before the Asean summit. (Reuter radiophoto)



EGYPTIAN Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Maguid (right) welcomes Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi who arrived on Saturday on a four day visit to Egypt. Varkonyi will hold talks with Egyptian officials on bilateral relations between the two countries, the Gulf war, and Middle East issues. (Reuter radiophoto)



BRIAN Mosher holds the Olympic torch aloft at the Olympic stadium in Montreal after running through the site of the 1976 Summer Olympic Games. It is on its way to the 1988 Winter Games in Calgary.



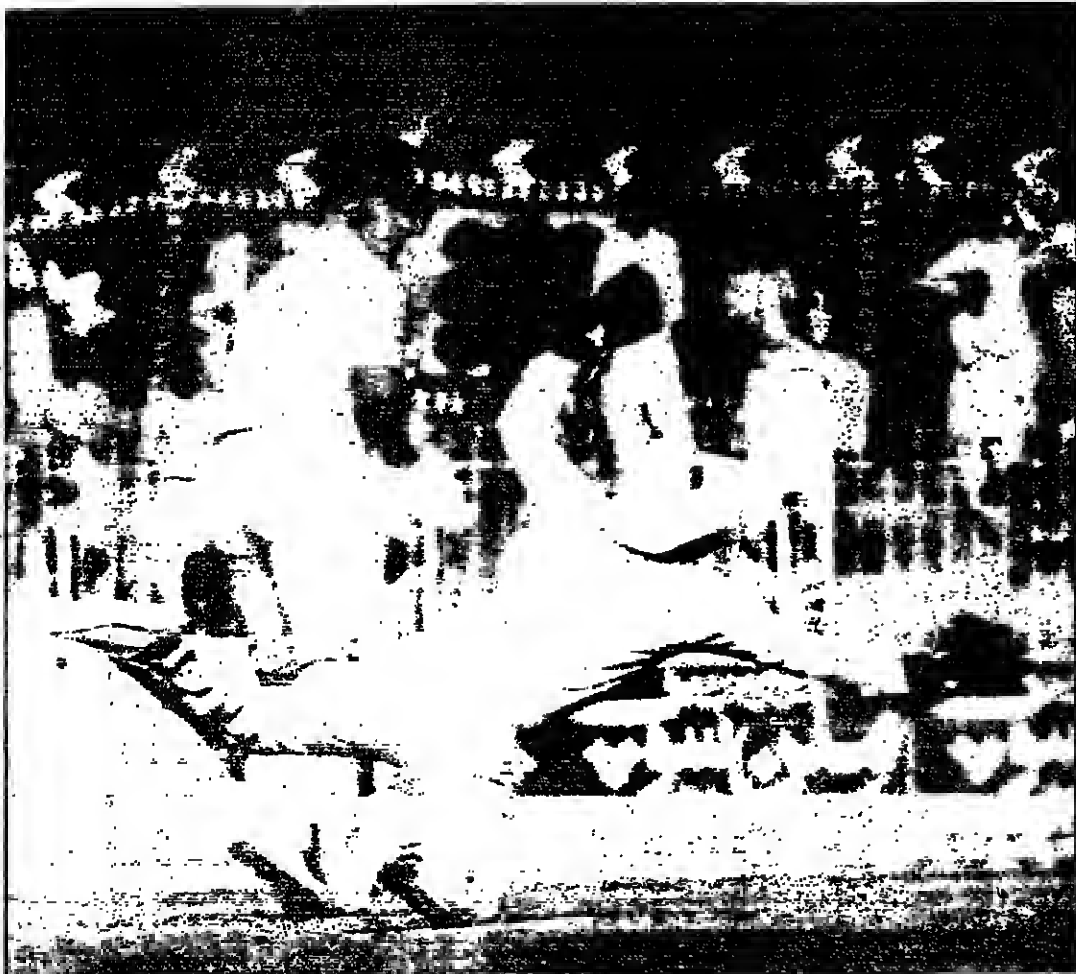
CEDRIC SANDIFORD, a survivor of an alleged racial attack at Howard Beach, New York, a year ago, emerges from the state Supreme Court in Queens on Saturday with his fiancée, Jean Griffith. The jury finished the second day of deliberations without reaching a verdict on four white youths charged with murder and manslaughter. (Reuter radiophoto)



A GROUP of 'mothers of Plaza del Mayo', whose children disappeared during the previous military rule in Argentina, join British rock singer Sting on stage as he gives a concert at a soccer stadium in Buenos Aires on Friday. The mothers, wearing their traditional white scarves, joined hands with Sting as he played 'They Dance Alone' before a 60,000 strong audience. (Reuter radiophoto)



A US Navy helicopter hovers over the deck of the Cypriot supertanker 'Pivot' in the southern Gulf on Saturday before lifting crewmen to safety after the ship was hit by an Iranian frigate. (Reuter radiophoto)



PAKISTAN's wicket-keeper Ashraf Ali tries to take a catch off England's Man of the Match, Chris Broad on Saturday. The disrupted second Test between Pakistan and England ended in a draw on the fifth and final day. (Reuter radiophoto)



A FLAK-JACKETED Haitian soldier stands in the doorway of the Supreme Court on Saturday during a ceremony by members of the court naming the new electoral council. The council will supervise a new round of elections called for January 17. (Reuter radiophoto)



ALBERTO TOMBA of Italy waves his trophies from the podium alongside second placed Rudolf Nierlich of Austria, (left) and joint third placed Swiss Joel Gaspoz and Hans Pieren, (right) in the World Cup ski competition in Badia, Italy. (Reuter radiophoto)



FORMER soccer stars Pele of Brazil and Michel Platini of France greet each other on stage at the World Cup soccer draw in Zurich on Saturday night. (Reuter radiophoto)



YOUNG Jube McKeeown, three, seems a little apprehensive as he is shown the stone figures from China's monumental Terracotta Army that go on public display in London from today. The exhibition of terracotta warriors and horses from the tomb of Emperor Qin Shihuang will be open until next February and is expected to attract at least half a million visitors. (Reuter radiophoto)

Are donor countries suffering from aid-fatigue?

Sluggish response to new Ethiopian crisis

By Don Allan

THE FAMINE holding more than five million Ethiopians in a crushing grip as winter approaches presents the well-off of the world with a basic question: how far are they willing to go to help the less fortunate members of the human family?

The tragedy of farmers who have again seen their crops wither and die in the northern provinces of Eritrea, Tigre and Wollo has unfolded in full view of the world. Since the rains failed in July, and a second planting in August also dried up in the parched fields, the Ethiopian Government and foreign aid officials have repeatedly warned that a massive relief effort would be needed before food stocks ran out in November.

Alarm signals and appeals to the international community for contributions to head off a repetition of the disasters of 1973-1974 and 1983-1985 gave ample warning, but the response has been slow and grudging. After the emotional outpouring of aid galvanised by popular personalities and musicians in 1985, the public in the North is said to have "aid fatigue".

The needs are clear. In September, the director of the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, Berhanu Jember, estimated that the grain harvest would be 950,000 tons short of the needs for 1988

and he launched an appeal to fill the gap. Crop losses in Tigre were 75 per cent and in Eritrea, even worse: a total of 5.1 million were threatened with starvation in the coming year in these areas.

But at a donors' meeting in Addis Ababa three weeks ago, Jember upped the figures. The RRC's Early Warning Report now put the number of those threatened at 5.2 million, and the food aid needs for 1988 were 939,000 tonnes of grain, 88,000 tonnes of supplementary food and 20,000 of edible oil.

The UN and relief agencies agreed with the new government estimates and some privately predicted that food aid needs would reach 1.5 million tonnes in the next month or two. An FAO mission is expected to produce a new assessment within a fortnight.

To move supplies from Red Sea ports, the UN Disaster Relief Organisation appealed for contributions in cash or kind to provide transport planes and 300 long-haul trucks.

Michael Priestley, coordinator of the UN emergency group in Addis Ababa, warned donors that, in Tigre alone, "thousands may die of starvation if a substantial flow of relief food is not established within the next few weeks."

Of these thousands, a high percentage would be young children. Unicef's Addis Ababa office points out.

On November 18, Unicef



A starving Ethiopian mother nurses her starving child.

launched a \$22 million appeal for emergency support for children and their families.

Development is widely recognised as Ethiopia's strongest protection against the effects of the droughts and famines that have periodically hit it. In the intervals between the last two disasters, the Government and its development aid partners have given food security and other emergency projects priority. Unfortunately, support has been low and the magnitude and pervasiveness of poverty in

Ethiopia have presented formidable obstacles. So have the guerrilla movements fighting for independence.

Support. Vagaries of rainfall are not the only causes of food shortages in the northern regions. Ethiopia is one of the world's poorest countries and is getting poorer year by year. The per capita GNP is \$110 a year, falling as population increases at an annual rate of 2.9 per cent.

Ninety per cent of Ethiopians depend exclusively on agricultural production and 95

per cent of regularly cropped land is in the highlands and reliant on rainfall. Eighty-eight per cent of the population is concentrated in the highlands, which only a few generations ago were 40 per cent forested. Today, only 4 per cent of tree cover remains, and each year two billion cubic yards of topsoil are carried away by erosion. Ethiopia has not been self-sufficient in food for a decade.

Ethiopia lives so close to subsistence levels that any drop in food production is damaging

and famine is a catastrophe. The present drought comes when the country still has not recovered from the disasters of two years ago. And yet experts say that Ethiopia has great food-producing potential.

Ethiopia receives the lowest per capita development assistance in Africa — only \$8.70 a year. This compares with nearly \$30 for Sudan and \$70 for Somalia. The governments that provide most development assistance criticise Ethiopia's heavy investment in fighting insurgencies, its insistence on collective farming and its highly controversial resettlement programme.

The outpouring of relief funds from the public in response to the appeals of 1985 marked a high point, so far, of humanitarian support for Ethiopia. Most went for emergency feeding and care and, because of the lag between appeals and actual delivery of relief, a lot of it arrived too late to prevent the death of several hundreds of thousands of people.

By April, 1986, when Unicef launched an appeal for \$17 million for relief and rehabilitation, the emotional response had peaked. A year later, less than \$5 million had been received.

What will happen this winter and through most of 1988? Will "politics" and "aid fatigue" be arguments blunting the urgent appeals for help? Will governmental and public response to Ethiopia's agony be limited to charity, to feeding the starving? Or will the world's well-off begin to recognise that distress for any part of the human family is an affliction for all that cannot be isolated or ignored? Will we be willing to stay the course and attack not only the symptoms but also the root causes of disaster?

These are the questions being asked by aid organisations, by the relief workers of Ethiopia and the many agencies racing against time to save lives. They know that hope has not died in Ethiopia, and pray it has not died in the hearts of those who are once again asked to help.

Making the desert habitable in Egypt

By Ian Murray

THE map still shows this as the desert, but birds now sit through the tall eucalyptuses, oranges and grapefruit glow in the green citrus orchards, and even mushrooms push up through the wild strawberries on the floor of the pine forest.

Eight years ago when Joep Carlier arrived here, halfway between Cairo and Alexandria, it was desert. Since then he and his team from the American University of Cairo have begun to learn how to make the desert bloom productively and they have watched at the same time how quickly young settlers and wealthy speculators can come to grief in this harsh climate.

On each side of the road from Cairo to Alexandria stretch the boldings of the speculators. Over the past year the desert has become the new frontier, and dreams of making it produce rich cash crops are attracting investors.

Some have transported in loads of Nile silt. Many have already built impressive gateways leading to wide desert landscapes with expensive irrigation systems. Several have planted young trees and already seen them shrivel and die. The dried stumps stretch like a graveyard by the road.

Carlier, a Dutchman who has worked in deserts from Niger to Iran, is not surprised at the quick failures. "They start up these huge projects and irrigate them, but they lack the knowledge of how to do it and they never stand a chance," he says.

Yet the sand, as soft as that on a fine beach, is capable of producing good crops provided water is available and the right methods are used. "It is exciting to be in at the beginning, learning how to do things that were never done before," Carlier says.

The first thing he learnt was that it is essential to grow strong windbreaks of pines and eucalyptuses before planting fruit trees, otherwise young plants are simply blown away before they take root.

The right varieties have to be selected. No fewer than 68 dif-

ferent citrus varieties have been grown here for the past five years. Some are stunted with little fruit, others are vigorous. Only four of the best will be chosen to be planted in the desert.

The successful citrus trees are now heavy with fruit, unlike those on the old desert farms farther to the south. The trees there yield only two tonnes of fruit an acre, compared with the 15 tonnes needed to be profitable.

Other successful crops are asparagus, endives and sweet corn. Sheep and cattle can graze on fields of alfalfa or acacia shrubs.

Research has also gone into building desert homes for the farmers. The prototype design has thick double walls which create natural air conditioning and its high domed roof helps to keep it cool.

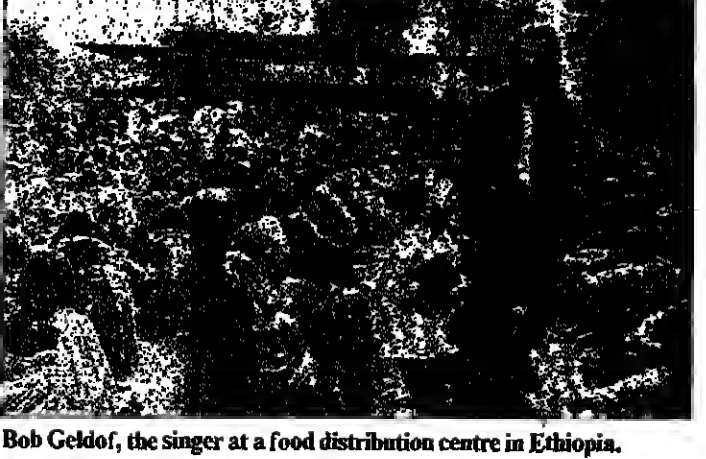
But the cost of such a house — about £16,000 — is prohibitive for young farmers. Their 20-acre plots stretch north from here across the desert.

They began arriving about a year ago, but already some of their farms look doomed. Hardly any of these farmers have put up protective windbreaks and the desert sands are rapidly destroying their hard work.

The Government's most successful large-scale attempt to make the desert bloom is 60 miles east of Cairo at El Salhia, where 60,000 acres are being irrigated and crops as varied as barley and beans, gladioli and peanuts are flourishing. Great spraying gantries roll across the fields, cows queue for milking, and hundreds of peasant workers have a job.

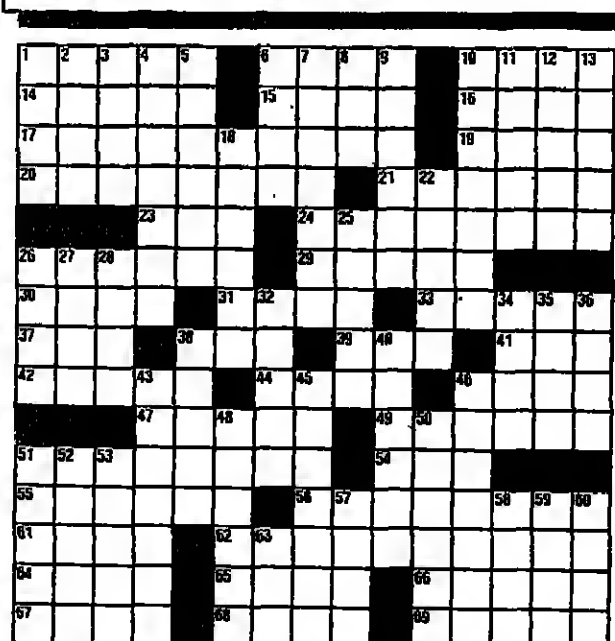
The scheme, which is properly established behind windbreaks, cost about £75 an acre to reclaim. It is still building up to full production, when it should be able to feed 1.5 million people. Twenty more like it could make Egypt self-sufficient in food.

A pumped water supply is the key to such expansion, and estimates of the cost of installing the El Salhia scheme suggest that it is not economic.



Bob Geldof, the singer at a food distribution centre in Ethiopia.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Home for a cleric
 - 6 Cadets' quarters: Abbr.
 - 10 Fleecy
 - 14 Falls to make use of
 - 15 Pin down
 - 16 Item for a glazier
 - 17 Lady's method of riding
 - 19 Sutherland specialty
 - 20 Slow leaks
 - 21 Short-legged, burrowing rodent
 - 23 With: Comb. form
 - 24 Natives of Nome
 - 26 Flowering plant of the tropics
 - 29 Eria, a.g.
 - 30 Kitchen appliance
 - 31 Maori ancestor
 - 33 Birthplace of Muhammad
 - 37 O'Hara's Joey
 - 38 Poetic time of day
 - 39 Letters on the big board
 - 41 Tiddit for Dobbin
 - 42 Toward the center
 - 44 Bowl, for one
 - 46 Pull a fast one
 - 47 Author Newmsn
 - 49 Venetian medal of yore
 - 51 Formal headwear
 - 54 Operate
 - 55 Brief expression
 - 56 Disputa on the diamond
 - 61 Suggestion
 - 62 Contestant in a horse show
 - 64 Nastase of the
- DOWN**
- 5 Public games in ancient Rome
 - 6 Mrs. Arrowsmith
 - 87 Certain deer
 - 88 Crystal gazar
 - 89 Bar, in law
 - 1 Actor Arnold
 - 2 Friend, in France
 - 3 Brood of pheasants
 - 4 Family member
 - 5 Lamb's output
 - 6 Waving, in heraldry
 - 7 Cartoon character of WW II
 - 8 Wira measure
 - 9 President of Mexico: 1946-52
 - 10 Effervescence
 - 11 Destiny, to a Buddhist
 - 12 Part of the skull
 - 13 —foot oil
 - 18 Paternal relative
 - 22 Volcano on Honshu
 - 25 Dana
 - 26 Move aimlessly
 - 27 Lendit of the courts
 - 28 Become tender
 - 32 "The Jewel in the Crown"
 - 34 Series of loops
 - 35 Page
 - 36 One of the Aleutians
 - 38 Heroic poems of the 13th cen.
 - 40 A well-known line?
 - 43 Charges with gas
 - 45 Built in
 - 46 City on the Ganges
 - 48 Bikas
 - 50 Mantilly acute
 - 51 Biblical land of great wealth
 - 52 Detective Vance
 - 53 "Sesame Street" character
 - 57 — apparent
 - 58 Splash of color
 - 59 Precoder of gram and graph
 - 60 Kind of cookia
 - 63 Neighbor of Ont.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

HAOON SAGA WELL
ALDNE TMEN ALDE
CARTWHEELS GANG
KEY DEAN WRONGS
BEAO REIN
SALAO HARDTACK
ANNUL SURE ROLE
BDNN DWNED ARUG
ARID VOTE MITES
STEERERS MDNAD
RARE PANS
ROBBER ERIS RFO
ABOU AUTIMOBILE
POMS TROID ORGAN
TEDS ENNIS NASTY

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
THE EXTRA CHANCE PAYS OFF

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
 ♠ 7 5 2
 ♥ 6 2
 ♦ Q 10 9 6 3
 ♣ 7 5 3

WEST
 ♠ J 6 4 3
 ♥ J 10 9 7
 ♦ A 8 2
 ♣ Q 9

EAST
 ♠ Q 10 9
 ♥ 8 5 4 3
 ♦ 7 5
 ♣ K 10 8 6

SOUTH
 ♠ A K 8
 ♥ A K Q
 ♦ K J 4
 ♣ A J 4 2

The bidding:
 South West North East
 2 ♣ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
 3 NT Pass Pass Pass
 Opening lead: Jack of ♣

If all there was to today's hand was to force out the ace of diamonds, it would belong in a bridge primer rather than in a bridge column. To succeed at the bridge table you must prepare for the worst. Suppose the defenders are able to shut out dummy's long diamonds, allowing you to score but two tricks in the suit. Where is your ninth trick coming from?

South's opening two club bid was

artificial and strong. His jump to three no trump over his partner's negative response showed a balanced 25-27 points, and North could do little other than hope his diamonds would prove useful.

Just how good his suit was, was highlighted by declarer's superb technique. South realized that, if either defender could hold up the ace of diamonds for two rounds, he would be one trick short of his contract. The only suit that offered a prayer for an extra trick was clubs.

After winning the king of hearts, declarer led a low club from hand. West won and continued with a heart, taken by the ace. When West dropped the queen of clubs under the ace, the contract became a moral certainty.

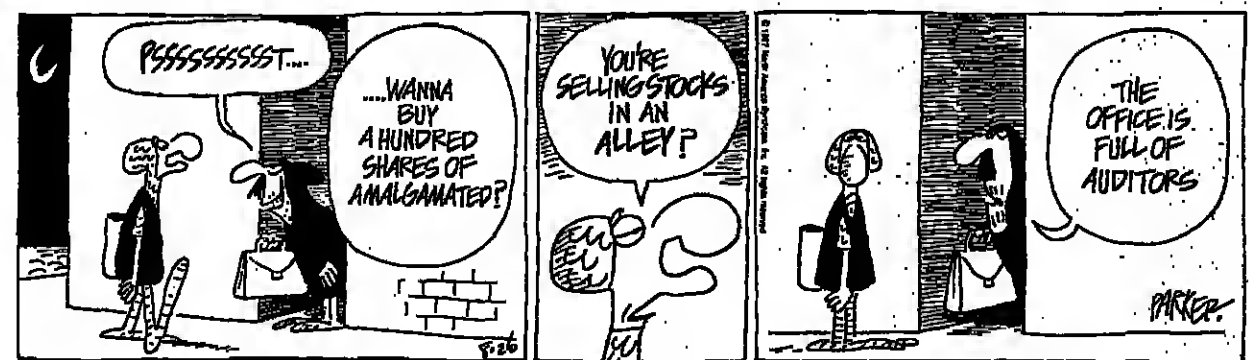
Declarer continued with the king of diamonds, and West could not afford to win the ace. Next came the jack of diamonds overtaken by the queen. The defenders had to hold up again, but South had gained a critical entry to the table. Since there was no way to enjoy the long diamonds once they were established, declarer abandoned that suit in favor of leading a club. As long as East held at least three cards in the suit, the contract was guaranteed.



"I can't find Australia. Are you sure it's on here?"

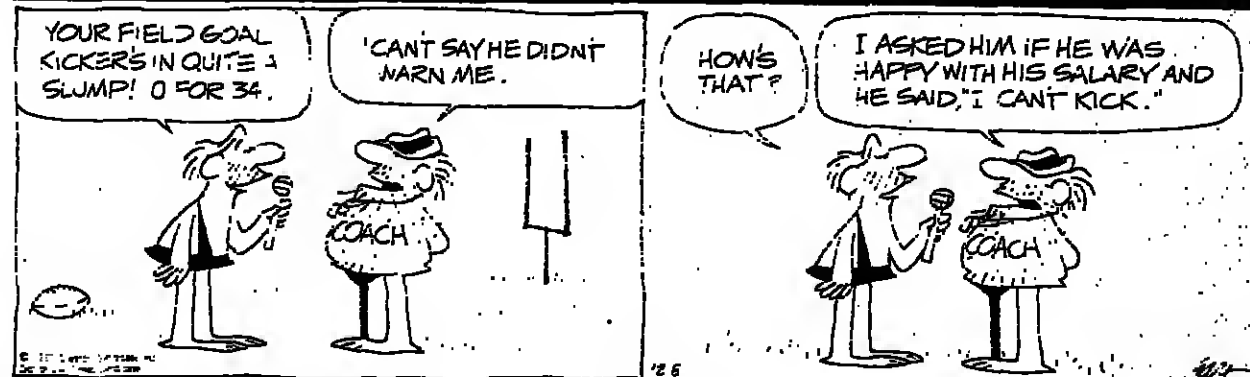
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will feel a little unsure of yourself, so beware of doing anything risky. A good talk will help you to reach a better understanding. Take the best care of your health. Be less arrogant.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be a little more successful but only if you work really hard. You should take care not to exaggerate and not to exceed the limits of property.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will succeed in taking the initiative and your efforts will be appreciated. Your intuitions will help in guide you along lines that are in keeping with reason.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You should not do anything that might give rise to conflicts. You should however stick to your principles. Not everything will proceed just as you would have wished it to. Be conscientious.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

This is an important week for you so do not do anything that would waste time or energy. You should do all possible to maintain harmony with your partner. Avoid being reckless or impatient.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You will have some success with a private matter. Something will happen to lift your spirits and raise your morale. You should not place too much trust in luck and not take any chances. Be confident.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

The Moon's more favourable influence will help to make you less timid. You should consult a map in advance if you want to avoid losing your way. Do not leave matters until the very last minute.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

Mars's better influence will help you to meet your commitments. You should not expect others to do something for which you are really responsible. Leave yourself more time for your personal affairs. Be frugal.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You will feel a little better than you have been of late. However you should still not have too many late nights and follow a healthy diet. Do not make a promise you would find it hard to keep. Be resolute.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

Progress will not be as smooth as you had hoped it would be. Mars's better influence will help you to recuperate from a slight illness. You should do all you can to stay on good terms with an older relative. Be reasonable.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will be more inclined to daydream and should make an effort to keep your feet firmly on the ground. Do not allow work to encroach upon your private life.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

If you try to deceive your partner you will come out worse in the end. You should not rely on luck to get you out of trouble, although you could well be lucky.

Long history of struggle for rights

Egyptian women have their say in new parliament

Despite a recent shrinkage in their ranks during the last parliamentary elections, female activists remain confident that they have a vital role to play in their country's political future.

By Majda Abu Fadil

A WOMAN'S place... according to the old cliché is firmly enshrined "at home". American feminists turned the idea around with catchy stickers and T-shirts reading "a woman's place is in the House... and Senate". But Egypt's women, with a long history of struggle for their rights, are still having some difficulty making up their minds.

Despite a recent shrinkage in their ranks during the last parliamentary elections, several noted female political figures candidly reviewed their climb up the political ladders and discussed the high-wire act of tending to family and constituent obligations.

A more visible presence among the current cohort of 14 women parliamentarians is Nawal Amer, who has served in the People's Assembly since 1964. A strong advocate of women's working rights, Amer represents the populous district of Sayyida Zeinab as member of the ruling National Democratic Party.

Criticism

She disputes the argument that fewer women in the Assembly means less clout. "Today's political women are not less important than yesterday's. She is an equal participant in legislative decision-making and partakes of all the supervisory responsibilities relating to the executive mechanisms within parliament."

Nawal Amer went on to criticise the main political parties for not nominating more women to parliamentary seats. "Most parties chose all-male slates, but our party was the most forthcoming in promoting women," she explained of the election procedures.

Women's rights advocates in Egypt have been ambivalent about the system, which until 1986 authorised the president to appoint 10 members to the People's Assembly.

A law introduced in 1976 requiring him to allocate several seats to women was repealed a decade later. "Electing a woman has always been difficult, since the majority are men," said Olfat Kamel, the only woman from the opposition neo-Wafd party. "But it's not a matter of numbers, rather the work these women produce." Kamel, who served as chairman of the housing committee in the 1970s, praised fellow member Laila Takla, a one-time Wafdist, and currently independent legislator, who has distinguished herself on the foreign affairs committee.

"I've always focused on housing — one of our most chronic problems," Kamel told *The Middle East*. "I've been ringing the danger bells since 1964, when the issue was far less volatile." Today Egyptians face a desperate shortage of decent housing and newly-weds often wait for years, living with relatives, before they can afford key money for an apartment.

"Most housing is beyond the average wage earner's budget,"

she added. "Plus we have the problem of crumbling older buildings that, due to lack of maintenance, are falling on the tenants' heads."

Like their counterparts around the world, Egypt's female activists have long called for full participation in the political process, with social issues topping their list of priorities.

"Women should be involved in politics, since their household budgets are part of the overall economy," argues Dr Soheir El Qalamawi, a well-known educator, writer and former member of parliament. El Qalamawi, a professor of Arabic language and literature at Cairo University, traces her involvement to student demonstrations against the British colonial powers. "They had us girls marching in front rows so the police would not attack the women, but the British could not have cared less and beat us up all the same," she said.

She is particularly proud of the pressure she and her colleagues brought to bear on then-Prime Minister Mohammad Pacha Mahmoud, to march in the funeral procession of students shot by Gen. Thomas Russell Pacha, the Cairo police commandant at the time.

Turning to the current political climate, El Qalamawi said lack of awareness reflects a failure in education and cultural illiteracy. "At least 50 per cent of those registered to vote don't actually cast any ballots," she lamented.

Additionally, the level of illiteracy among women is higher in Egypt — effectively making them the weaker electoral bloc. "Besides," she added, "men still have a hard time accepting a woman leader, even if she's eminently qualified because of the entrenched traditions."



The level of illiteracy amongst women in Egypt makes them a weak electoral bloc.

Women in Egyptian politics have also juggled home life and the demands of parenthood. Dr Farkhonda Hassan, a scientist who teaches at the American University in Cairo, put off her political ambitions until her two children had almost graduated from university.

Hassan first served as a member of the People's Assembly from 1979 to 1984 and was later appointed by President Hosni Mubarak to the Shura (consultative) Council, where she actively formulates policy recommendations on the Arab

and foreign relations committee.

Unlike the People's Assembly, the Shura Council is not a legislative body and cannot introduce laws. Instead, it proposes changes, studies government plans, questions parliamentary actions and presents recommendations to the president.

So what are the rewards of serving in a government agency with an almost muted voice and no salary to speak of? "The privilege of being able to give part of your thoughts and



Legislator Olfat Kamel: concerned with the dangers of housing in Egypt for 20 years.



Dr Soheir El Qalamawi: 'women should be involved in politics, since their household budgets are part of the overall economy.'

ambition for the country," the soft-spoken idealistic Hassan responded.

This summer, for example, she chaired a subcommittee debating the merits of nuclear power and its environmental impact. Egypt has delayed a projected nuclear power plant in Al Dabaa following the political and environmental fallout from the Chernobyl plant meltdown in the Soviet Union. Hassan is credited with raising Egyptians' awareness concerning environmental pollution and the passage of

several laws to curb its adverse effects. She has been particularly vocal about the need to cut the level of smog which has reached alarming proportions.

All the Egyptian women politicians agreed present political parties should plan for the future. "The real crisis is that the leaders' average age is above 70, and internal squabbling makes the question of succession a rather murky one," explained Dr El Qalamawi. But Wafdist member Olfat Kamel countered by saying the veteran politicians who lead her party reflect experience and continuity. "Having an opposition party in the assembly is like adding salt to the cooking — it enhances the flavour," she said.

Predictably, the most optimistic views were expressed by the ruling party's Nawal Amer. "Egyptian women have excelled in the fields of nuclear science, education, diplomacy, engineering and the law," she said. "Their real political birth was 30 years ago, but they've certainly come a long way since." Amer attests to equal treatment by her Assembly colleagues with whom she has had heated arguments over various legislative issues. "If we exhibited any weakness as women we'd be giving the men an opportunity to treat us as weak participants in the system," she noted.

Ironically, one of Egypt's most famous feminists and writers, Amina El Said, said in an interview published by the Egyptian Gazette that women can also be their own worst enemy.

"Do you know who voted women out of the People's Assembly? A stupid woman who, to my relief, was the first to be kicked out of parliament," El Said said. Courtesy: Mosaic

Glut of products for overtired females

By Larry Doyle

CHICAGO (UPI): Just what is happening to the upwardly mobile, young and independent, can-do women of the '80s?

To read the news releases, big trouble. America's successful female are stressed out, bound up, overtired and undernourished. And they are desperately lacking in shelf space for all the products designed to fulfil their very special health needs.

"Are America's women burning out?" asks one piece of mail, from a company that markets the only multivitamin supplement for women with calcium.

"Women on the go — can't," declares a survey by a laxative company, providing a helpful background paper on "constipation: the price of success for the '80s woman."

The casual observer might conclude that women executives are dropping face first into power lunches all over the country. And the concerned corporate female might be prompted to send her secretary out to load up on stress vitamins, calcium supplements, fish oils and natural laxatives. But if there is a superwoman syndrome or a feminine malaise, the health professionals have not noticed it.

"We really don't have good solid scientific evidence to support the fact that there is any sort of real epidemic going on, with stressed-out women falling down all over the place," says Linda van Horn, an assistant professor of community health at Northwestern University and spokeswoman for the American Dietetic Association.

"As usual," Horn says, "The industry is just trying to keep a step ahead by having the products ready before we know we need them."

This is not to say that the more and more women on the fast track positions are not under stress, or that it is not affecting their health.

Different "Indeed women do have different nutrient requirements," Horn says. "And it probably is appropriate to assume that there are additional needs brought on by stress. But the industry can take news like this and just really run with it."

"And you know, she adds, "It is not as if the women at home were never under any stress. As the mother of a 20-month-old, I assure you that is not the case."

However, there is also a lot of truth in the surveys being peddled by industry concerns. The vitamin survey, for example, finds that young women in the workplace are not eating enough fruits and vegetables and are more inclined to skip breakfast.

"There is an adaptation process that will and should occur as women get used to being in the marketplace," Horn says. "But the solution is for them to learn how to eat right in the new environment, not just buy supplements to make up for the fact that they are not eating right."

And, Horn says, she was not surprised to find that a quarter of young working women report being constipated at least once a month.

"Of course, because they don't eat right," she says. "They don't get fibre in their diets or enough of the right kind of liquids. If they drink coffee or diet soft drinks all day, the caffeine is actually going to dehydrate them."

"And many aren't eating at all, which will also constipate you."

Marriage bureau matches Asian girls with white British husbands

By Amit Roy

SHIRIN IMRANA KHAN, a spirited 24-year-old Asian girl, is looking for a husband. Not just any husband, but a white British husband. "I will never marry an Asian man," she declares defiantly.

So Shirin and scores of other like-minded Asian girls living in Britain have registered with an Asian marriage bureau which is offering a new line in love. The Suman bureau in the west London suburb of Southall is cutting across cultural and religious barriers by matching Asian women with eligible, white Britons.

"These British men are looking for faithful wives and stability in marriage," says Ramesh Bhargava, 51, who runs the bureau with his 47-year-old wife, Suman. The Asian women, he adds, are searching for a more liberated lifestyle. "That means avoiding dominating Asian men, dowry problems and interfering in-laws."

Nearly 100 white Britons, many with university degrees or doctorates and earning more than £20,000 a year have recently paid the £85 registration fee which entitles them to an unlimited number of introductions in a year. Another £95 is payable to the bureau if an introduction leads to marriage.

It is one thing for a Briton and an Asian woman to meet by chance, fall in love and marry.

A new line in love

Scores of Asian girls living in Britain have registered with an Asian marriage bureau in the London suburb of Southall which is cutting across cultural and religious barriers by matching Asian women with eligible, white Britons.

Quite another to risk greater hostility from their respective communities by making it clear at the very outset that they do not want someone from their own culture.

Shirin, a doctor's daughter who has been brought up in Britain, has not been impressed by most of the Asian men she has encountered. British men, she thinks are more straightforward.

Shirin resisted attempts by her mother, when she was alive, to pair her off with one of her cousins, as is common with Muslims. She has now asked the bureau for a white Briton who is "middle class, educated, artistic, conservative but not too religious." She has met six and "very much liked one from Yorkshire."

The Asian girls Shirin knew at school often "fancied" the English boys their brothers brought home. But they seldom confronted their parents with

their true feelings when pressed into arranged marriages.

Shirin's father, who arrived from Pakistan 20 years ago, would have preferred a conventional match for his daughter. But he smiles indulgently as Shirin talks. "What I place highest is her happiness," he says gently.

Few Asian fathers will take as sanguine a view of their daughter's decision to flout accepted social behaviour. Some fathers, in similar circumstances, would more readily pour out hemlock. But the bureau's activities across the cultural divide are a litmus test of creeping social change in Britain.

Arrange

In seeking to arrange mixed marriages, the bureau has scored an early success with a British computer analyst, aged 33, who is shortly to marry a 31-year-old Muslim woman with a first-class honours degree. She

was the eighth woman to whom he was introduced; he was her third introduction.

Within "two to three weeks" the mutual attraction they initially felt had intensified and within six weeks they decided to marry, both for the first time. His family may yet disapprove but he also realises his fiancée has to show greater courage.

"I don't care for what other people think," he declared last week, but requested anonymity to protect his fiancée.

The main task of the bureau is to match Asian men and women. The office walls are plastered with photographs of some of the 4,000 Asian weddings the bureau has arranged over 15 years. Business has been brisk, and Bhargava, who concedes he is "comfortably off," drives a Mercedes. His daughter, Purva, 14 will one day have an arranged marriage just as her mother did.

The Bhargavas have categorised the 1,500 men and women on their books: Hindu boys/girls; Muslim boys/girls; Sikh boys/girls.

Recently, they opened a fresh file: English boys. This contains details of about 100 white Britons plus the Asian women willing to marry them. The Britons were lured by advertisements in such publica-



Shirin Imrana Khan, one of the marriage bureau's clients.

tions as Time Out, Exchange & Mart, City Limits and the Daily Telegraph.

Once, a few mainly divorced or elderly white Britons approached him. But the new trend is for younger, successful, single Britons to seek Asian brides.

Bhargava flicks through their papers: one shows a university lecturer with five degrees, another describes an accountant, aged 37, on £25,000 a year with an economics degree from the London School of Economics. He mentions a solicitor who will only admit he is "well off" and a computer programmer with a BSc physics degree.

A computer analyst emphasises that to him the woman's "loyalty and devotion are more important than looks."

Another man requests "a faithful wife — one who loves children and knows her role." An antiquities dealer expresses the desire to meet "a typical Asian girl with qualities the Western world has started to appreciate — serenity and dignity — unlike the majority of Western women who have become liberated."

One applicant, a 29-year-old English careers adviser, last

week outlined his background to *The Sunday Times*. He grew up in Yorkshire, where his best boyhood friend was Ramesh, whose family, the only Asians who are not prevented by the disapproving attitude of their families. Bhargava argues that when a white Briton marries an Asian woman, "they get the best of both worlds." She does not have to worry about paying a fat dowry or excessive interference from in-laws.

The British husband, compared with the Asian, has much to commend him. "Asian husbands are more dominating. They expect their wives to do all the work at home even if they have a full-time job outside. A Briton will share housework, and he and his wife relax together," Bhargava says.

As for the couple marrying next month, they would like to think that they may be bringing children into a better Britain. But the man has few illusions, especially about the intolerance his children will undoubtedly face from other children. "Children are quick to spot differences. It won't be the fault of the children, of course, but the children's parents. We are going into this with our eyes open."

FAMILY DOCTOR
By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: How can you tell the difference between temporary stroke (TIA) and fainting?

ANSWER: Temporary strokes usually have no warning signs, and recovery is complete just afterward. To decide which occurred, it is helpful to know what happened just prior to the incident. People with TIA rarely lose consciousness — they usually appear confused, sleepy and may have difficulty communicating for about half an hour. TIAs occur most often in older men.

When you faint, it often occurs after a long period of standing, in extreme heat, or when you have not eaten in several hours. Often a fainting episode is signaled by a queasy feeling. Sometimes a cough, hyperventilation or an irregular heartbeat occurs to trigger fainting.

Seizures also sometimes are confused with fainting and TIAs. Seizures are accompanied by muscular contractions that often leave the patient feeling sore afterward. They are slow to "come to" being very groggy after the seizure ends.

If you witness any of these events in another person, the most important thing is

TEMPORARY STROKES OCCUR MOST OFTEN IN OLDER MEN

to stay with the patient, supporting him and protecting his head from injury. It's best not to try to stop a seizure — just protect the head from hard surfaces if you can. Get medical help as soon as possible, and describe to the physician exactly what happened.

QUESTION: Tell me about "temporary" pacemakers.

ANSWER: A temporary pacemaker is one that is used to regulate the heartbeat for a few days and frequently is used for patients who are recovering from heart attacks. Sometimes, after a heart attack, the heart is unable to resume a normal heartbeat without assistance, and a pacemaker is used until the heart adjusts itself.

Like a permanent pacemaker, a temporary one sends electrical pulses to the heart to speed up the heart and keep it beating regularly. A catheter carrying these pulses is inserted into the heart via an arm or shoulder vein. Although a permanent pacemaker is placed under the skin of the chest, a temporary pacemaker is outside the body, with the catheter usually inserted at the inside of the elbow.

In most cases, a temporary pacemaker is used for only a few days, by which time the

heart should be beating regularly on its own. This short time also reduces the major risk of a temporary pacemaker, which is an infection developing at the point where the catheter enters the arm.

ACROSS MY DESK: With the fear of contracting AIDS from blood used in transfusions, many patients requiring elective surgery seek to stockpile their own blood to be used during their operation. The greater the number of red cells in this blood, the more effective it is to replace surgical blood loss. This fact has researchers seeking new ways of increasing the red-cell count in such patients. A team of scientists at Vanderbilt University Medical School, Nashville, Tenn., led by hematologist Dr Sanford B. Krantz, will be one of 18 national research centres to use a kidney hormone called erythropoietin to stimulate the bone marrow, hopefully producing the desired increase in red cells. The hormone, and the grant for the research, is being provided by Ortho Pharmaceutical Corp. With blood supplies on the short side these days, this new research may have far-reaching benefits.

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ANDY CAPP



By Smith

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Aeroflot aims to improve service and efficiency

MOSCOW, Dec 13, (UPI): The Soviet national airline Aeroflot in an attempt to improve service and efficiency will begin paying compensation of up to 25 per cent of the ticket price to passengers who are inconvenienced through delays caused by Aeroflot staff or overbooking of flights, the Izvestia newspaper said today.

The new regulations will come into force on Feb 1, 1988.

Aeroflot, the world's largest airline which carries more than 110 million passengers a year on international and domestic flights, has a reputation for poor service and frequent unannounced flight delays and rescheduling.

The airline is the only one permitted to operate in the country. According to the new regulations the airline will pay "money compensation for delay of a flight if it was due to Aeroflot."

Compensation

Izvestia said compensation would be paid for overbooking of flights or changes in schedule made after the purchase of a ticket.

If a passenger is bumped off a flight he will be given priority for seating on the next available flight. Also passengers who miss flights because of slow check-in processing or baggage check-in will be compensated.

Compensation will be between 10 and 25 per cent of the ticket price depending on amount of time delayed.

The move is part of an attempt to improve quality in the country's service industry and in monopoly sectors of the Soviet economy.

But it will not be Aeroflot itself that plans to pay out the compensation but rather its employees.

"The compensation will be paid at the expense of those who are to blame for it," Izvestia said.

Finances approved

KHARTOUM, Dec 13, (Kuoa): The Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (Badea) has approved finances for eight new operations of economic and technical development to the continent, it was reported here today.

The bank, in a statement issued today, said it would be providing \$26.81 million to development projects in Burundi, Ghana, Uganda, Angola and Niger.

The new finances bring the bank's commitments to Africa this year to \$70.67 million, and total commitments since 1975 to \$836.88 million.

'Investors should stay out of the equity markets for the time being'

Options can help to minimise currency risks: SBC official

By Keith Wells

SENIOR management experts from the Swiss Bank Corporation held a seminar at the Meridien Hotel yesterday that was attended by over seventy participants from local banks, financial corporations and institutions.

The first speaker was Herr Seiler, the Chief Dealer in Swiss Bank Corp's Foreign Exchange and Money Market Department and known as one of the best foreign exchange dealers in the world. His talk was entitled, "Currency Risk Management of an International Portfolio."

Herr Seiler explained the way that options can help to minimise currency risks which can be quite substantial.

Collapse

He explained that since the collapse of the Bretton Woods exchange rates in the early Seventies, currencies have operated in a free-floating exchange system that has led to massive fluctuations.

For example, in the period 1973 to 1987 the Deutschmark/dollar rate has ranged from 1.6 to 3.3 and even in a single year the rate has sometimes fluctuated by as much as 44 per cent.

Even over as short a period as a single week the exchange rate between the Swiss franc and the dollar has gone up by as much as six per cent.

Naturally, such fluctuations can cause havoc to anyone who is trying to do international business. A price fixed in dollars might seem to offer a fine profit, but that could be turned into a disastrous loss if the currency rates change dramatically before the money is actually paid.

Uncertainty

Herr Seiler said that the traditional method of coping with this uncertainty is the Forward Currency Contract, but that this lacks flexibility. What was needed was a system that provided the maximum possible insurance against currency losses, while still allowing the chance of making windfall currency gains. Such an instrument is the Currency Option.

There are two types of option,

a Call gives the owner the right to buy a certain amount of foreign currency at a set price, a Put allows him to sell.

Seiler gave several examples to explain how these options work. Suppose you will need a large amount of dollars in six months time, and the current rate is 2.50 Swiss francs to the dollar. To buy a Call option to buy dollars at that same price in six months time will cost a premium of 0.5 centimes per dollar.

If the price rises to 2.60 you can exercise your option which will only have cost 2.50 plus the premium, equals 2.55. However, if the price drops to 2.30 then you simply let the option lapse, buy the dollars on the spot market at 2.30 which together with your premium, of 0.5 will make your total cost 2.35.

Option

Thus, the currency option is a sophisticated means of insuring against all currency risks for the price of a small premium whose costs are negligible compared to the losses that could be incurred.

Naturally, the price of the premium will depend on the volatility of the currency in question, if it seems likely to swing wildly in either direction, then the price will be higher than if the currency is reasonably stable.

Any loss is limited to no more than the price of the premium, but profits are unlimited subject only to the expense of the premium.

The next two presentations were both made by Swiss Bank Corporation's Vice-President in charge of the Portfolio Department, Herr Erich Scheidegger who began by outlining the general investment approach of the Bank. He explained that in periods of rapid inflation, real assets like farmland and precious metals are supreme, while financial assets perform poorly.

On the other hand, in periods of deflation, bonds and cash are best while real assets tend to do badly.

In periods of price stability, such as the past three years, equities perform best, bonds do quite well, but real assets underperform.

Given these historical guidelines, the first priority is to



Picture shows from left to right Seiler, Scheidegger, Brunner and Rigoni.

establish what sort of political, financial and economic climate will prevail over the coming years.

Next, the manager must look at the projections for currency and interest rates and corporate profitability over the coming 9 to 12 months.

Having done this, the next step is to look at the various equity markets and see which ones offer the best returns. Now the Portfolio Manager is ready to take the most important step, to allocate the assets under his control to the various sectors, i.e. stocks, bonds, cash or precious metals. Only after all of these steps have been taken does he begin to look for individual stocks.

Investment

Finally, he must consider the clients' own investment objectives, whether he is conservative or aggressive and so on.

Herr Scheidegger then turned to a discussion of the current market outlook, although he was at pains to say that in the wake of the October Crash it is extremely difficult to forecast.

He said that SBC does not anticipate a recession, although the possibility has undoubtedly increased. However, they did see a loss of 1 per cent of anticipated

growth in the United States. The UK has the best growth in Europe, prospects for growth in Japan still look favourable, but elsewhere a downturn seems likely.

Markets

Herr Scheidegger said he feels that investors should stay out of the equity markets for the time being. "Cash and bonds are king," he said, urging investors to make sure that they only invest in bonds of credit worthy companies and institutions. "The market is still bottoming, it hasn't got there yet, and it will take a long time to restore confidence in equities again." He said that there is a strong possibility that prices will improve in the short term, but that investors should use these upturns to sell off shares and transfer the funds into cash or bonds.

SBC predicts that gold will rise to between \$525 and \$550 per ounce in 1988 on fears of inflation and the general uncertainty.

Undervalued

Turning to currencies, he said that the dollar was beginning to look a bit undervalued, but the Deutsch mark, Dutch guilder and Swiss franc all look good. He expects sterling to remain stable, but feels that its recent headlong rise against the dollar is about

over. Herr Scheidegger then turned to a discussion of Islamic Banking saying that SBC portfolios could be arranged to conform with Islamic principles at the client's request.

Currently, this is done on an individual basis according to the client's own preferences. The portfolio could then be referred to an Islamic authority of the client's own choice to see if it follows Islamic principles.

Real estate investment in Switzerland is one field in which Islamic principles can be easily satisfied. The Swiss Bank Corporation is presently discussing the idea of introducing an Islamic Investment Fund which they hope to launch in the near future.

Clients

A discussion period followed Herr Scheidegger's talk. It was led by Herr Brunner, Senior Vice-President in charge of the private clients and institutional investors department and also head of the department of financial analysis. The seminar was brought to a close by SBC's Middle East Department Chief, Fritz Rigoni. Afterwards all the participants were invited to lunch at the Meridien, hosted by Swiss Bank Corp.

World Business Summary

GIC ready to share risk in investments

THE deputy executive president for projects in Gulf Investment Corporation (GIC) has 42 projects, 11 of them are being implemented while the rest are under review. In an exclusive interview with Kuwait News Agency, the GIC official said that the corporation was established to study and, then, feasible economic projects designed by the Gulf Cooperation Council. While drawing distinction between GIC and other commercial institution and banks, Al Manaei said that GIC invests in projects by financing them and sharing in the risk. Commercial banks provide short-term loans and do not share in the risks involved in the projects, he said, while GIC provides medium- and long-term loans with sharing any risks involved.

He pointed out that the basic principle of GIC is to create projects that can survive over the long-term and combine investment with development.

Asked about the projects of the corporation, the GIC official said that they are distributed among the GCC countries, especially Saudi Arabia which has a large market and strong support from the Saudi Fund for Industrial Development. He added that GIC also has interests in the financial markets and has participated in issuing bonds for several Kuwaiti companies such as Kuwait Foreign Trading, Contracting and Investments Company and the Kuwaiti International Company for Investment. The GIC's participation aims at pushing the financial market forward, he stressed.

BMA rules out break in currency links with dollar

BAHRAIN, Dec 13, (Reuters): A senior Bahrain financial official has ruled out the possibility of breaking traditional Gulf currency links to the dollar despite its steep decline on world exchange markets. Ibrahim Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, deputy director of the Bahrain Monetary Agency, told Reuters today a break was unlikely because it would disrupt the present system of calculating budgets from dollar-denominated revenues. "If people move out of the dollar there will be a trade-off in advantages," he said. "Our budgeting process is based on revenues and this would entirely change the philosophy of the system." Bankers have speculated that Gulf governments may abandon the dollar link because the value of their currencies has dropped sharply in line with the dollar. "This option has always been considered and feasibility studies have been conducted but I don't think it is likely to happen in Bahrain or the other Gulf countries," Khalifa said. "Our link with the dollar is established policy and a break would entirely change the philosophy of the system."

The management and entire staff of

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extend their heartfelt condolences to

Mr Sadiq Qamaruddin

the operations manager on the

occasion

of the demise of his

father

in India

May God grant him mercy

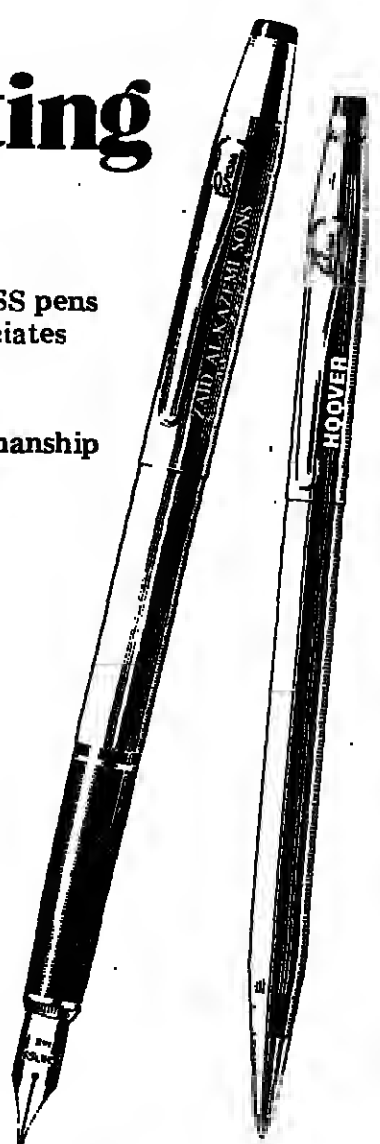
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Alshall stock price indices

Kuwait share prices jump

ALSHALL Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 39.01 points with a slight decrease of 0.05 points last week. Alshall index for Gulf shareholding companies reached 49.69 points with an increase of 2.43 points for the same period.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 23.08 million shares as a daily average of 4.62 million shares with an increase of about 22 per cent over the previous week daily average of 3.79 million shares. Gulf traded shares reached 26.86 million shares at a daily average of 5.37 million shares with a substantial increase of about 397 per cent over last week's daily average of 1.08 million shares.

The market increased for the week. The increase was more obvious for Gulf shares in both prices and trading volume. The increase in the Kuwait shares market was more on the trading volume. The market was more active towards the end of the week rather than the beginning of it.

This might be related to the relative stability in the international stock markets during this period and to the resumption of trading of the Gulf Investment Company's shares during the last trading day of the week which resulted in a rise of about 5 per cent in the Gulf shares prices and contributed to about 40 per cent of Gulf traded shares.

The banking sector continued its lead in total trading of Kuwaiti shares at 55 per cent with Kuwait Finance House 28 per cent, the Gulf Bank 25 per cent, and Kuwait National Bank 13 per cent. The services sector came second at 23 per cent of total trading of which Kuwait Commercial Markets Company had 49 per cent and Mobile Telephone Systems 39 per cent. The investment sector came third at 15 per cent.

The financial companies continued its lead in the trading volume of Gulf shares at 39 per cent of the total with Gulf Investment 43 per cent, Coast Investment Co 40 per cent and Arabian General Investment (Shua'a) 10 per cent.

It seems that to spite of the relative increase in the trading activity yet, the market performance is still relatively weak when compared with the usual performance during this last month of the financial year. If we disregard the effect of Gulf Investment Company on the market for the week the trading might be considered more as stable rather than active.

Kuwait shareholding companies Index			
	Wednesday 09/12/87	Wednesday 02/12/87	Change points
Banking Sector			
Kuwait National Bank	89.46	88.54	0.92
The Gulf Bank	33.54	33.54	-
The Commercial Bank	23.52	23.52	-
Alahli Bank	35.08	35.56	-0.48
Bank of Kuwait & M. East	24.56	24.12	0.44
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	33.73	34.13	-0.40
Burgan Bank	27.25	27.25	-
Kuwait Finance House	63.55	63.55	-
Sector Index	41.98	41.84	0.14
Investment Sector			
Kuwait Investment Co.	34.51	34.17	0.34
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co	29.90	29.55	0.34
Sector Index	32.88	32.34	0.54

Insurance Sector			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	40.23	40.77	-0.54
Gulf Insurance Co.	28.85	29.23	-0.38
Alahleia Insurance Co.	43.14	43.14	-
Warba Insurance Co.	80.76	81.62	-0.86
Sector Index	39.91	40.35	-0.43
Real Estate Sector			
Kuwait Real Estate	35.68	36.32	-0.64
United Realty	14.97	15.19	-0.22
National Real Estate	46.98	47.78	-0.80
Sector Index	25.70	26.13	-0.43
Industrial Sector			
Kuwait Cement Co.	16.09	16.09	-
Refrigeration Indust.	79.46	79.46	-
Gulf Cables	104.90	104.90	-
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	86.22	88.00	-1.78
Sector Index	33.40	33.48	-0.08
Services Sector			
Kuwait Computer Co.	211.68	216.00	-4.32
Kuwait Cinema Co.	9.42	10.84	-1.43
Public Warehousing Co.	96.97	97.98	-1.01
Kuwait Comm. Market Co.	37.95	38.95	-1.00
Mobile Telephone Syst.	366.67	366.67	-
Sector Index	70.67	71.88	-1.21
Food Sector			
Livestock Trad. & Transp.	50.45	50.45	-
United Fisheries	9.92	9.92	-
Kuwait United Poultry	88.74	88.74	-
Kuwait Food Co.	64.37	64.37	-
Sector Index	43.04	43.04	-
Overall Index	39.01	39.07	-0.05

Gulf shareholding companies Index			
	Wednesday 09/12/87	Wednesday 02/12/87	Change points
Financial Companies			
First Gulf Bank	228.95	228.95	-
United Gulf Bank	34.48	34.48	-
Bahrain Internat. Bank	102.07	100.69	1.38
Bahrain M. East Bank	104.41	104.41	-
Pearl Investment Co.	56.81	56.81	-
Gulf Inv. & Dev. Co.	61.03	35.29	25.74
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	82.25	90.04	-7.79
Bahrain Kuwait Inv. Gro.	75.76	75.76	-
Arabian Gen. Inv. (Shua'a)	59.09	58.33	0.76
Sector Index	66.55	63.05	3.50
Other Companies			
Gulf Cement (fully paid)	13.68	13.68	-
Shargah Cement	7.00	7.00	-
Fujairah Cement	9.21	9.21	-
Ajman Cement	10.00	10.00	-
RAK W. Cement	18.33	18.33	-
Gulf Medical Projects	16.55	14.90	1.66
Poultry & Fodder R. Alkha	36.36	36.36	-
Sector Index	12.81	12.73	0.08
Overall Index	49.69	47.26	2.43

Base Period 31/12/1983.

Kuwait dinar deposits mainly steady

KUWAITI dinar interbank deposits were mainly steady in a very quiet market yesterday, with some short-term rates falling under downward pressure exerted by surplus funds.

Dealers said the European weekend helped dampen trade, but demand for dinar deposits was already low because most banks had squared positions ahead of their year-end accounts.

Liquidity remained high because no government instruments were due to be issued this week. A total of KD69 million of 91-day treasury bills maturing on Wednesday was expected to further boost liquidity.

Funds

Overnight, spot-next and tomorrow-next funds were all offered at one per cent but there were few bids.

Dealers reported some trade in one-month deposits, which eased to 3-3/4, 1/4 per cent from 4-1/2 four per cent. They dealt early in the day at 3-7/8, then 3-5/8 per cent.

Three-month deposits were indicated little changed at five, 1/2 per cent while six-months eased 1/2 point to 5-1/2, five per cent. One-year was steady at six, 5-1/2 per cent.

The Central Bank left its dinar exchange rate unchanged at 0.2732/62 to the dollar. The spot dinar was quoted at 0.27362/72.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal interbank deposits were unchanged in a very dull market which saw virtually no demand due to the European weekend and uncertainty over the future direction of dollar interest rates.

Foreign Currency Selling Rates

Kuwait-India Int'l Exchange Co.
Tel: 242288-242233
242238-3917353

Indian rupees	21.320
Sri Lankan rupees	09.050
US dollars	274.000
Pound sterling	504.750
UAE dirhams	74.700
Deutsch marks	168.500
Japanese yen	02.150

Indian Exchange Corporation W.L.L.
Tel: 2463810-2463812
Fax: 2463812-3918087
Farwaniya 4736655

US dollars	274.070
Sterling	505.350
Swiss francs	207.970
Indian rupees	21.320
Sri Lankan rupees	9.050
Singapore dollars	137.180
Japanese yen	214.100

Kuwait Western Exchange Co.
Tel: 2468165-166-167
5744157-5757157

Indian rupees	21.320
Sterling	505.000
US dollars	274.000
Deutsch marks	169.000
Swiss francs	207.000
UAE dirhams	74.670
French francs	50.500
Jordanian dinars	805.000

Canara Exchange
Tel: 2468482/3
2437295-2437300

Indian rupees	21.320
Sri Lankan rupees	9.050
US dollars	273.900
Pound sterling	504.500
UAE dirhams	74.650
Philippine pesos	13.400

Al Kazemi Int'l Exchange Co.
City Br: 2422770/4/8
Salimiyah 5751788-5740701
Ahmadi: 3982251

US dollar	273.85
Sterling	504.35
Deutsch mark	168.25
Swiss franc	206.40
Japanese yen	213.80
French franc	049.70
Dutch guilder	149.45
Italian lira	228.40
Spanish pesetas	025.00
Belgian franc	080.25
Greek drachma	002.14
Tunisian dinar	348.05
Cyprus pound	611.90
Bahraini dinar	727.05
UAE dirham	074.65
Lebanese pound	000.615
Saudi riyal	073.15
Jordanian dinar	802.25
Sri Lankan rupee	009.05
Canadian dollar	212.00
Philippine peso	013.20
Austrian schilling	024.00
Qatari riyal	082.50
Thai baht	010.97
Egyptian pound	123.80

Gold
10 tolas 514.000
999 kilo bar 4,398.000
995 kilo bar 4,385.000

Al to open new routes

NEW DELHI, Dec 13, (Kua): India proposes to invest more than \$1.3 billion in a three-year plan for buying new generation of passenger aircrafts and opening new routes for its national carrier.

The plan will be financed through internal resources and foreign borrowings, officials say. Global tender would be floated soon for attracting capital.

This will reduce Air India's reliance on the Gulf route, which was becoming highly competitive.

Commercial Bank of Kuwait's weekly market report

KD market eases

THE dollar was quoted sharply lower, after news of poor US trade data. An apparent lack of concern for the currency's fate by the American administration contributed to the bearish sentiment in the market.

Kuwaiti dinar
Money was easy throughout most of the week. The short-dates were offered at 1 per cent. One and three months dealt as low as 3 3/4 and 4 7/8 per cent respectively.

However, the increase in the 91 — Treasury bill and bond issues on Wednesday from KD100 million and KD50 million to KD228 million and KD75 million, absorbed the excess short term liquidity and reversed the trend. Rates stabilised to the following:-

1+	3 3/4	4 1/4
2+	4 1/4	4 3/4
3+	4 5/8	5 1/8
6+	5 1/4	5 3/4
12+	5 1/2	6

Deutsche mark
After trading quietly most of the week, the Deutsche mark was priced considerably higher

Euro currency interest rates in percentage (indicative) Dec 12, 1987

	S	Stg	DM	J.Y.
1 month	8 1/16 8 7/16	8 1/2 8 3/8	3 15/16 3 13/16	4 15/16 4 13/16
2 months	8 1/4 8 1/8	8 5/8 8 1/2	3 7/8 3 3/4	4 11/16 4 9/16
3 months	8 1/4 8 1/8	8 11/16 8 9/16	3 7/8 3 3/4	4 9/16 4 7/16
6 months	8 5/16 8 3/16	8 13/16 8 11/16	3 7/8 3 3/4	4 9/16 4 7/16
12 months	8 7/16 8 5/16	9 1/8 9	4 — 37/8	4 9/16 4 7/16

after the announcement of the US trade figures on Thursday. Gains over the week totalled four pence to a final rate of DM1.6315.

Sterling
Sterling found itself in demand once more, as the dollar weakened. Slightly higher at DM2.9885, the pound gained over 2 1/2 per cent to close around \$1.8380.

Japanese yen
The yen made further record gains against the dollar, despite some reduction of the imbalance of trade between Japan and the U.S.A. This year end markets may have exaggerated over 3 1/4 per cent higher at 128.35 yen.

Gold
Gold prices started the week on a weak tone. Sideways trading kept gold at steady levels until the release of the record US trade deficit figure on Thursday.

The rally took the prices up to just below the \$500 level on the spot market as technically inspired buying joined in.

Silver and platinum also followed gold's uptrend, reaching highs of \$7.10 and \$515 respectively.

Ozal is set to inject more austerity into Turkish life

ANKARA, Dec 13, (Reuters): After the euphoria of a sweeping election victory, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal is set to inject more sobering dose of austerity into Turkish life.

In what government officials and bankers see as one of the trickiest balancing acts of his four years in power, Ozal plans to tackle runaway inflation, a gaping budget deficit and rising foreign debt.

To do that, bankers say, he must lower the aspirations of Turkey's 52 million people now enjoying an economic boom and a spirit of free enterprise symbolised by plans to join the European Economic Community.

Recession
But Ozal will also want to avoid hitting the brakes too hard for fear of tipping the economy into recession.

"I think the coming year will be one of sacrifice for the majority of the Turkish people," said Ismail Turk, president of the Capital Market Commission set up to regulate Turkey's fast expanding financial markets.

"But Ozal is the man who can explain this to the public ... and he has a chance," he added.

Ozal will use the coming weeks to form a new cabinet after the November 29 poll that re-elected him and to finalise economic policy for 1988.

Problems
Bankers say a team of young technocrats in key ministries and the central bank are broadly agreed on problems facing an economy now growing at an annual rate of 6.9 per cent and in danger of overheating.

Inflation, officially 41.7 per cent in the 12 months to Novem-

ber, is estimated independently to be nearer 50 to 60 per cent and still rising. A 30 per cent target is likely for 1988.

The budget deficit, projected at 930 billion lira (\$930 million) for 1987 had already hit 1,095 billion (\$1.1 billion) by the end of October. Spending cuts are expected to concentrate on non-essential projects.

Foreign debt is rising and forecast by bankers to hit \$37 billion by end-1987 from \$31.2 billion at the start of the year.

The government has set itself vociferously against a rescheduling, but bankers are nervous about the volume of short-term debt and high borrowing by municipal authorities apparently outside centralised control.

"I think Turkey can get away without rescheduling," said Atilla Uras, vice president at Manufacturers Hanover in Istanbul. "But too little emphasis has been put on the debt maturity profile in past years."

Borrowing
That "maturity profile" has been characterised by short-term borrowing which will help increase repayments due next year to about \$5.1 to \$5.3 billion from 4.8 billion in 1986.

One element of an austerity programme has already fallen into place.

Within days of re-election, Ozal unleashed price rises of 30 to 100 per cent on goods and services produced by state-owned companies in a move to help finance 1988's budget.

Increases in the range of items subject to value added tax, including perhaps politically sensitive food, are also thought to be in the pipeline.

But bankers and businessmen question how far Ozal can increase prices and taxes without risking social unrest in a nation that until 1983 was under military rule.

Restrictive
"Price increases came late because of the elections and they may not really be sufficient ... but more could mean social problems," said Murat Vargi, chairman of one of Turkey's biggest trading groups Penta Dis Ticaret Ltd.

The central bank is also urging a restrictive monetary policy to squeeze domestic demand and dampen inflation.

Bankers said hardliners in the central bank have advocated two years of zero growth or at most 2.5 per cent to keep pace with population expansion.

Bankers believe this is the most controversial aspect of any package and say Ozal, whose Motherland Party campaigned on a platform of seven per cent average growth over the next five years, will find it unacceptable.

They calculate that just to keep the lid on unemployment at current levels of 16 per cent, the economy has to grow by nearly six per cent per year.

Deflation
"A reduction in the growth target to four to five per cent would be the largest dose of deflation Ozal could probably afford," said one Western diplomat. "It would be consistent with reducing inflation to about 30 per cent."

A steady devaluation of the Turkish lira may also be speeded up to push Turkish exports and maximise hard currency earnings essential for repaying debt.

Free capital flow to activate investments, says Omani official

MUSCAT, Dec 13, (Kuna): Oman's total imports from the UAE last year totalled 171.15 million Omani riyals while UAE imports from the sultanate within the same period totalled 21.1 million Omani riyals. Undersecretary of Commerce and Industry Ahmed Bin Abdul Nabi Macki was quoted as saying by the Oman News Agency today.

In an interview with Al-Markazi publication of the Central Bank of Oman, Macki pointed out that a recent study indicated that prices in a number of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member states are higher than those in Oman.

Collaboration
The study, conducted by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in collaboration with an international business consultant, indicated that prices in Oman are within the average

Third World grain needs seen up 55pc by year 2000

LONDON, Dec 13, (Reuters): The Third World's need for grain is likely to soar by 55 per cent by the end of the century and there are questions over whether it can be met, the International Wheat Council (IWC) said today.

A major study by the trade body's secretariat said total grain consumption in developing countries could exceed 1.35 billion tonnes in 2000, compared with 871 million in 1985.

Total world grain production now, of wheat, rice and coarse grains like barley, is around 1.75 billion tonnes, slightly in excess of current demand.

level compared to other members of the council, the undersecretary said.

Gulf capital contribution to Omani private sector companies up to mid 1987, Macki said, totalled 38.2 million Omani riyals at a percentage of 31 of the total Omani-foreign investment capital valued at 181.1 million Omani riyals.

The undersecretary of commerce and industry pointed out that the decision adopted by the GCC regarding the free flow of capital among its member states would activate their investments in the presence of proper coordination.

Foreign capital contribution to the investments on the production sector has remarkably increased to reach 37 per cent of the total invested capital in the first half of 1987 compared to 10.1 per cent in 1984, noted the undersecretary.

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KUWAIT City, Sharq. Opp. Washar Restaurant, flat 9. One room with water and electricity for RC bachelors. Tele. Pinto 4731855 ext 1459 from 9.30 - 11.30 am.

(AT1-39993-3)

FAHAHEEL, near Gulf Pharmacy. Spacious independent room for a South Indian bachelor or a working girl. Rent KD45. Tele. 3924440.

(AT2-40012-3)

JULEBB Al Shiyyokh, opp. petrol station. Sharing accommodation in a single bedroom flat, fully furnished, for one bachelor preferably Bangladeshi, from 1.1.88. Rent KD45. Tele. 4896000 ext. 3807.

(AT3-40038-3)

SHAAB, near Jamaiya, House 8, Block 3, Street 36. One room with kitchen and bathroom for a small family, working girls or bachelors. Tele. Pinto, 2422238, Mornings only.

(AT3-40016-3)

FAHAHEEL, Makkah Street, near Sadaf Pharmacy. One large room for one bachelor, Hindu/Christian, to share with another Indian bachelor. Rent KD35. Tele. Fred, 3922169 after 2 pm.

(AT3-40037-3)

SHAMIYA, House 42, opp. German Embassy, Al Mamoun Street, Area 3, near Jamaiya. 2 rooms with separate kitchen and phone facilities. Tele. Arif, 4814087.

(AT3-40028-3)

KEIFAN, near stadium, sharing accommodation for bachelors. Bus routes 21, 42, 31. Tele. Lawrence, 5613281. Franky, 4831955 ext. 439.

(AT3-40029-3)

FARWANIYA, behind Holiday Inn, Building 6, Flat 6, 1st floor. One room with kitchen facilities for two Indian bachelors, to share with a Goan family. Tele. Catarina, 4841554, 4833770, 8 am - 12.30 pm and 4 - 7 pm.

(AT3-40049-3)

KEIFAN, Area 1, Street 12, House 16. Accommodation for one or two Catholic bachelors to share with another Goan bachelor. Bus routes 20, 22, 23. Tele. Delfino, 3295445 ext. 1610, 7.30am-1.15pm.

(AT3-40055-3)

DASMA, Area 1, Street 18, House 3. Two rooms for small families or working ladies. Tele. Zafar Mahmood, 2404223.

(AT3-40060-3)

FOR SALE

Cars

HONDA 1977 model, insurance till March 1988, in running condition. KD 110 cash. Tele. Zia, 4813588, 1 - 4pm.

(AT1-MJ-3)

TOYOTA Corona, 74 model, automatic, insured upto 1.6.88 with AC and radio in good condition. KD350. Tele. 4817784, 9am-12.30 pm and 4.30-6.30 pm.

(AT1-AL-TM-3)

MITSUBISHI Sapporo 1982, white, automatic transmission, electric windows, electric sunroof, in good condition. KD675. Tele. Mr. Nigel, 2410918, 2419204, 2410039 from 8 am - 4pm.

(AT6-39963-6)

CHEVROLET Caprice 1980, black, registered upto 24th Dec 1988. Owner leaving end of Dec, in good running condition. KD550 ono. Cash. Tele. Joseph, 2445705, 7 - 10 am, after 9 pm.

(AT1-39995-3)

TOYOTA Corolla DX 1300, 1985, manual in excellent condition. Tele. Mr. Sharma, 2533315, 8 am - 2pm and 5380361, after 3pm.

(AT2-40014-3)

RANGE Rover 82, AC, manual, brown, in good condition. KD1300, ono. Cash. Tele. Hopkins, 5642599, 3-6 pm.

(AT1-39988-3)

MERCEDES 280E 1981, automatic, low mileage, single owner, immaculate condition with full options. KD2000. Tele. Martin, 2401786, from 9 am - 1pm.

(AT3-40034-1)

GALANT GL 1979 model, insured upto 3/88, grey metallic, manual shift, AC and in good condition. KD250. Tele. Khalid, 4815080, 4815318, from 8 am - 5pm.

(AT3-40030-3)

JAGUAR XJS, H.E. 1982, AC, automatic, blue, 12 cylinders, needs some work. KD2000, ono. Tele. Chuck, 3901575 ext 10, after 5pm.

(AT3-40036-3)

GMC Jimmy, with winch, registered till December 1988, in good roadworthy condition. Tele. 3901575, ext. 11, evenings.

(AT3-40038-3)

TOYOTA Crown, Super Saloon, Dec 1986, white, fully automatic, 13000 kms, fully insured. In showroom condition KD3450. Tele. 3919903.

(AT2-S-TM-3)

JMPALA, 77 model, registered upto November 88. KD350, ono. Tele. 3904734, Res.

(AT3-40024-3)

Miscellaneous

SALMIYA near Indian School, fully furnished, spacious double bedroom flat. Present rent KD150. Tele. 2431067, 8 am - 12.30 pm, 4-7 pm.

(AT1-39983-3)

MISTRAL '86, Malibu sailboat, complete with 6.0 m.sq Camber Line world cup sail (Camber inducer system). KD250. Tele. 5382658/9.

(AT3-40027-3)

THE New Encyclopaedia Britannica 1988 copyright, 32 volumes, new, still in original carton. KD250. Tele. 5386420, from 7 - 10 pm.

(AT3-40026-3)

HOUSEHOLD items for sale. Beds, tables, chairs, TV and video etc. Tele. 5716995.

(AT1-39985-3)

GENUINE red fox jacket as new. Size 10. KD200, ono. Also toys for sale. Tele. 2642466, after 2 pm.

(AT1-40002-3)

NUGRA: two bedrooms and a hall in a large flat available with fixtures and tele. Rent KD150. Also car Dodge Aries 1981, 51,000 kms. Best offers secure. Tele. Vaswani, 2631681, after 4pm.

(AT3-40025-3)

2 BEDROOM, Central AC, in Rigga with tele. for sale. Also brand new furniture. New rent KD160. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tele. Russell French, 4890648, after 2.15 pm.

(AT3-40032-3)

ROLEX Oyster perpetual datejust wristwatch, stainless steel and 18kt. gold bracelet, brand new, unused, full guarantee, original receipt. Original cost KD780. Best offer. Tele. 2551192, evenings.

(AT3-40035-3)

GERMAN Vitrine (OAK) brand new H/W/D: 192/140/44 cm. Fixed price KD95. Tele. 5339194, after 8 pm.

(AT3-40022-3)

Boats

'CELLI' Cruiser 21ft 235 OMC, Galley, toilet and new 4 wheel trailer. Also Mercruiser 850S outboard engine. Reasonable offer. Tele. S. Shaw 3940580 ext 387 anytime.

(AT1-39986-3)

Furniture

HOUSEHOLD furniture: Ikea bedroom and saloon. Kitchen equipment, used only 4 months. Tele. Rashid Kamal or Anan 5634200.

(AT2-40021-3)

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AUSTRALIA INCH TOWARDS SAFETY AGAINST NEW ZEALAND

Border hits ton to cross 7,000 mark

ADELAIDE, Dec 13, (Reuters). Captain Allan Border scored the 22nd century and 7,000th run of his Test career to help Australia inch towards safety on the third day of the second Test against New Zealand today.

At the close Australia were 225 for four, needing another 61 runs to avoid the follow-on after New Zealand hit a massive 485 for nine declared in their first innings.

Border was 105 not out, having passed Sir Donald Bradman's total of 6,996 test runs when he reached 71. Bradman, now 79, was at the Adelaide Oval to see his landmark overtake.

Only Greg Chappell, with 7,110 runs, has scored more runs for Australia than Border who now stands at number eight in the all-time list with 7,031 runs.

The moustachioed left-hander came to the wicket at 29 for two after Richard Hadlee had removed opener David Boon and Dean Jones in the space of four balls.

Boon, on six, hung his bat out to dry outside the off-stump, got an inside edge and saw his stumps scatter to the ricobet.

Mecir and Smid clinch doubles title

LONDON, Dec 13, (Reuters). The guile of Miloslav Mecir and the graft of Tomas Smid gave Czechoslovakia a richly deserved victory in the Grand Prix Masters Doubles Championship today.

Displaying the same understanding they had shown against Swedish title-holders Stefan Edberg and Anders Jarryd in the semifinals, the east Europeans finally subdued Americans Ken Flach and Robert Seguso in four sets.

Mecir and Smid won 6-4 7-5 6-7 3-6 in a little over three hours to boost their respective bank accounts by \$36,000.

Although he is the lesser known of the two, Smid, in particular, will treasure the Masters trophy more than the winning cheque.

Career

At 31, and with a record which marks him out as one of the outstanding exponents of doubles in the modern era, he is a member of an elite eight-man club which has amassed more than three million dollars in career prize money.

Flach and Seguso, the reigning Wimbledon champions, left their best form in yesterday's semifinals when they beat Spanish combination, Sergio Casal and Emilio Sanchez in an epic five-setter.

They never looked comfortable amid the clink of cutlery on bone china as the Royal Albert Hall patrons settled down to a traditional English Sunday lunch.

Seguso dropped his serve in the opening game of the match, repeatedly switched rackets in a vain attempt to find his touch of old, and shouted "it can't get any worse," as Smid served out for the set.

In fact, Seguso was wrong. Things did become worse in the second set when he and Flach squandered four break points against Smid in the eighth game. With Mecir, the master of disguise, about to enter one of his renowned patches of magic, it was a mistake the Americans were to rue.

Control

A double fault by Flach at 30-40 in the 12th game put the Czechoslovaks two sets in front and firmly in control, despite a lapse in the third set which they contrived to lose from a winning position.

But the Europeans swiftly recovered their poise and, with Mecir hitting a stream of inspired winners which left Smid looking agreeably surprised, they captured Flach's service for a crucial fourth time in the match to take a decisive 5-3 lead in the fourth set.

Punjab reach semifinals

PUNJAB Farwaniya moved into the semifinals of Butt Punjab Trophy cricket tournament with an eight-wicket win over New Kheitan Cricket Club at the New Kheitan ground on Friday.

Bating first, New Kheitan were all out with 57 scores in 17 overs.

In reply Arif and Anwar opened the innings for Punjab but the latter was soon run out for seven with the total at 15. Punjab lost another wicket, and seemed to be struggling at 30 for two, when Raza joined Arif and both of them took the New Kheitan bowlers to task.

Raza remained unbeaten on 30 as Punjab went past the victory target without any further loss. Arif and Tariq took three wickets while Anwar and Asif took two wickets each from Punjab.



Border gets 22nd Test century

Jones did well to survive the first two deliveries from Hadlee - number one threatened to spear him through the chest while number two almost took his head off.

But ball number three, which reared from a full length, took the outside edge leaving wicketkeeper Ian Smith to celebrate an easy catch. Jones nodded his head in admiration of Hadlee's

skill even before the umpire lifted his finger.

Border looked uneasy early in his innings, played in blistering heat. But he gradually settled down to dominate a 56-run partnership with Geoff Marsh, unleashing some fine cover drives and square cuts.

The two survived until lunch but Marsh departed soon after the interval, caught in the gully off Hadlee for 30. Hadlee finished with three for 38 off 24 overs.

Steve Waugh came in ahead of Mike Veletta, who injured his right thigh in fielding practice before play started. Like Border the all-rounder rode his luck to post a record 119-run fourth wicket partnership for Australia against New Zealand.

New Zealand will be annoyed Border is still at the wicket as they had at least three clear chances to dismiss him.

On 57 the Australian captain charged left-arm spinner Evan

Waugh misread a snick in the final over of the day.

Waugh lasted 191 minutes before falling lbw to medium-pace Martin Snedden from the seventh delivery bowled with the second new ball.

Border reached his century in 272 balls. At the close Peter Sleep was unbeaten on six.

Australia won the first Test by nine wickets.

Scoreboard

NEW ZEALAND first innings 485 for nine declared (A. Jones 150, M. Crowe 137)

AUSTRALIA first innings (over-
night 17 for no wicket)
G. Marsh c Gray b Hadlee 30
D. Boon b Hadlee 6
D. Jones c Smith b Hadlee 0
A. Border not out 105
S. Waugh lbw b Snedden 61
P. Sleep not out 17
Extras (b-2 lb-8 w-1 nb-6) 16
Total (for four wickets) 225
Fall of wickets: 1-29 2-29 3-85 4-225

To bat: M. Veletta, G. Dyer, T. May, C. McDermott, B. Reid

Bowling to date: Hadlee 24-39-3 (2nb), Morrison 11-0-39-0 (4nb 1w), Bracewell 25-6-57-0, Snedden 16-3-36-1, Gray 22-7-34-0, Patel 7-3-11-0.

Walsh takes five for 54

West Indies restrict India to 281

BOMBAY, Dec 13, (Reuters). Openers Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes gave West Indies a solid start in the second cricket Test against India here on Sunday after a mopping up operation meant more play was lost.

In an hour before the close of the third day West Indies made 49 without loss in reply to India's first innings total of 281 all out but with 613 minutes of play lost to the most likely outcome.

The effects of yesterday's rain, which washed out the whole of the second day's play, delayed the start today by an hour.

Mesmerised
For the visitors, Jamaican fast bowler Courtney Walsh ended with Test best figures of five for 54 in 17.4 overs that mesmerised the Indians as Patrick Patterson had done in the first Test in Delhi.

He got more speed and bounce off the pitch than the other bowlers and deserved more than the couple of tailenders he added to his three wickets on Friday.

The most important damage today was done by Clyde Butts, the only spinner included by

West Indies. He claimed his first Test wicket against the Indians when he beat skipper Dilip Vengsarkar for a stumping chance snatched up by Jeff Dujon, then patiently awaited his moment to catch to short mid-on.

India's 281, scored over three days despite cloud, rain, fog and reluctant umpires, was respectable but not nearly good enough to put pressure on the visitors.

As so often, India's batting promised much and delivered only part of it. Three recognised batsmen - Arun Lal, Mohinder Amarnath and Ravi Shastri - failed completely, but Krishna Srikanth, Dilip Vengsarkar and Kapil Dev played good innings and so did Mohammed Azharuddin until he decided to run himself out when on 34.

Srikanth's 71 on the first day was the highest individual score and remained the best effort of the innings.

Vengsarkar, who seems little affected by the cares of captaincy, scored an effortless 51, but it was Kapil Dev, who rarely flourished as skipper, who drew the greatest applause from the admittedly partisan - Bombay crowd.

His 47 was a delightful knock, full of joyful strokeplay. And he followed it with a spell as opening bowler that began with a hat-trick of maiden overs and ended with the useful figures of 6-4-8-0.

In the hour before the close, the West Indies openers treated the other bowlers with less respect, getting Chetan Sharma taken off after an expensive 17 in three overs and showing little respect for Maninder Singh, who found less turn than Butts had done.

Haynes, who has shown less brightly than his opening partner Gordon Greenidge of late, took Maninder for two beautifully timed off-driven boundaries in his first three balls and laid into Arshad Ayub to amass 36 by the close.

Greenidge, who had borne the brunt of Kapil's onslaught, was content to watch him, and ended on 11 not out.

India first innings (overnight 99 for three)

K. Srikanth b Walsh 71
A. Lal c Richardson b Walsh 3
M. Amarnath c Butts b Walsh 1
D. Vengsarkar c Dujon b Butts 51
M. Azharuddin run out 34
R. Shastri c Richardson b Davis 0
Kapil Dev c Greenidge b Butts 47
K. More c Dujon b Patterson 6
A. Ayub c Richardson b Walsh 22
C. Sharma not out 8
Maninder Singh c Richardson b Walsh 0
Extras (b-4 lb-15 nb-16) 35
Total 281
Fall of wickets: 1-66 2-74 3-85 4-157 5-162 6-227 7-241 8-247 9-271.

Bowling: Patterson 17-3-78-1, Davis 15-0-71-1, Walsh 17-4-3-54-5, Butts 18-5-59-2.

West Indies first innings
G. Greenidge not out 11
D. Haynes not out 36
Extra (b-1 nb-1) 49
Total (for no wicket) 49

To bat: C. Hooper, R. Richardson, V. Richards, A. Logie, J. Dujon, W. Davis, P. Patterson, C. Walsh, C. Butts.

Bowling to date: Kapil Dev 6-4-8-0, Sharma 3-1-7-0, Ayub 4-0-11-0, Maninder 2-0-12-0.

Former captains join Gatting debate

LONDON, Dec 13, (Reuters). Former England cricket captain Tony Lewis backed calls for the introduction of neutral umpires in Test matches following current skipper Mike Gatting's public dispute with Pakistani umpire Shakoor Rana on Tuesday.

"The move to neutral umpires must be made, though it is said that this would be forced on other countries by Pakistan's inadequacies," Lewis wrote in the Sunday Telegraph newspaper.

Lecture
Lewis, who captained England on their 1972-73 tour of India and Pakistan, said of the dispute over mutual allegations of cheating: "I cannot bring myself to lecture Mike Gatting too severely."

"I would prefer to put my arm gently round him, and explain how he who is neither a cheat, nor negligent of duty, has been stung to distraction by opponents and umpires who have fallen short of his own standards."

While no England captain could sort out his grievances by shouting at umpires or dragging his whole team into disputes, Gatting had faced circumstances which England captains before him had not, Lewis said.

"The umpiring was unsatisfactory but unbiased, the home players perfectly sporting," Lewis wrote of his series in Pakistan in 1973.

Pakistani players were now far better paid than in the 1970s, Lewis added, but umpires did not share their status or new-found financial advantages, and still adjudicated on a part-time basis.

Mike Brearley, who captained England on their 1976-77 tour of the sub continent, called the dispute "L'Affaire Faisalabad" and in an article in the Sunday Times newspaper traced its origins to the psychological pressures on both parties involved.

"Mike Gatting and Shakoor Rana are both to blame," Brearley wrote. "But each is also only the representative of mutually suspicious groupings, each thrust forward on to the centre of the stage like medieval jousting to be the protagonists of heraldic factions."

Brearley quoted another former England captain, Ian Botham, as saying "Pakistani umpires are ice-cream salesman in white jackets" and described the approach of some English cricketers to Pakistan as "suspicious, inclined to boorishness, contemptuous."

Squabble
Pakistanis found many visiting cricketers and commentators xenophobic in their attitudes, he said.

"This ridiculous squabble has been fed from many sources," Brearley concluded, adding that Shakoor Rana and Mike Gatting "both deserve a good kicking off."

"There is a players' meeting tonight to decide what line of action they are going to take."

"It will take a hell of a long time for feelings to soften. I knew what it would be like over here but not in my worst dreams did I think it would be as bad as this."

Gatting said that the World Cup tournament in Pakistan was

unhappy over the outcome and the players issued a statement defending Gatting and criticising the TCCB for pressuring him into signing the apology.

Gatting said that when Subba Row and Smith arrived in Karachi on Tuesday he would be asking them why pressure was exerted on the England team so forcibly and "not on the other parties."

"I think we are all very glad the second Test is out of the way but it's going to be difficult for all of us to get in the right frame of mind for another match unless some satisfaction is derived from the TCCB officials."

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Gatting (left) walks on to the field as Shakoor waits for him, ball in hand, on the last day of the 2nd Test. (Reuters radiophoto)

Gatting will not tour Pakistan again, hints at pulling out of 3rd Test

KARACHI, Dec 13, (Reuters). England cricket captain Mike Gatting confirmed today that he would not tour Pakistan again and hinted that he might pull out of the third and final Test beginning in Karachi on Wednesday.

Gatting, who meets top English Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) officials Raman Subba Row and Alan Smith tomorrow to discuss his row with umpire Shakoor Rana during the second Test, told reporters: "I will never come here again. Enough is enough as far as I'm concerned."

"I've done three trips and it's got progressively worse. I just hope all this might pave the way for other people who come here to get a fairer crack of the whip."

Changes
Asked about leading England in the final Test, Gatting replied: "I'm not particularly in the right frame of mind and unless something changes over the next 48 hours I will have to think about it."

Gatting fiercely criticised the standard of umpiring in the first Test in Lahore, where Pakistan won by an innings. He then became embroiled in a heated row with umpire Shakoor Rana on the second day of the Test in Faisalabad.

"Shakoor refused to continue" until the England skipper signed a written apology over the use of bad language when the two men quarrelled in full view of the television cameras.

The England camp were very unhappy over the outcome and the players issued a statement defending Gatting and criticising the TCCB for pressuring him into signing the apology.

Gatting said that when Subba Row and Smith arrived in Karachi on Tuesday he would be asking them why pressure was exerted on the England team so forcibly and "not on the other parties."

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Gatting said that the World Cup tournament in Pakistan was

run under exceptionally friendly and enjoyable circumstances, but "as soon as this tour started everything seemed to go back to a set plan."

He added: "There is less enjoyment playing in Pakistan than anywhere else. If enjoyment is taken away from the game there is no point in playing and there is no fun in it."

"It is a great honour to be the captain of England and I have enjoyed it. But there are times when one begins to wonder whether it is worth it."

In another development Pakistan has chosen an umpire involved in a fierce dispute with the England team two weeks ago for the third cricket test, informed sources said today.

Shakil Khan, 35, was one of the two umpires in the first Test in Lahore on November 25-28, whose decisions were blamed by England for their crushing defeat.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, said the second umpire would be Khizar Hayat, who also officiated in the drawn Faisalabad game.

Ejaz Butt, secretary of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), declined to comment but said the names of the umpires would be announced officially later today.

Renewed
Meanwhile former Pakistan cricket captain Imran Khan has renewed his call for neutral umpires, saying it is the only way to avoid the kind of controversy that has marred England's current Test series in Pakistan.

Imran said yesterday: "I think the answer is to have an independent panel of umpires that has been selected for the matches by both sides. I think that idea would work. It is certainly worth a try."

The all-rounder, who retired from international cricket after the recent World Cup in India and Pakistan and is in London for a television sports programme, called for neutral umpires during his country's 1987 tour of England.

Imran would not comment about the on-field row between Gatting and Shakoor.

Pakistan's 15 - Javed Miandad (captain), Mudassar Nazar, Rameez Raja, Salim Malik, Ejaz Ahmed, Shoaib Mohammad, Aamir Malik, Zulqarnain, Abdul Qadir, Tauseef Ahmed, Iqbal Qasim, Mohsin Kamal, Salim Jaffer, Wasim Akram, Mushtaq Ahmad.

Andrews scores surprise victory in Enduro

ERIC ANDREWS scored a surprise victory in this year's Enduro at the Ahmadi Kart Racing Track on Friday.

Andrews, a novice driver, took advantage of starting from the front of the grid for the first time in his career, to finish well ahead of the top drivers and clinch the trophy.

Geoff Pollitt, a former champion, came out of retirement to take second place with 158 laps in his first race of the season. Jeff Butt was two laps behind in third place.

Rob Baker, the former Enduro champion, experienced a lot of mechanical problems but still managed to finish fourth (154 laps). Baker also spun off the track once.

Paul Gandy, who also suffered from mechanical problems and at one stage was thinking of dropping out, took the fifth position.

In the Enduro, the winner is the driver who completes the maximum number of laps in the two-hour limit. This was the first round of the Ahmadi Challenge Cup. Drivers are awarded double points in this championship.

Dennis Fulcher, Richard Thomas, Simon Lloyd, Kurt Badstieber, Roger Eley and Hugh Coulter also took part in the race.

Maleeva marries

KUESNACHT, Switzerland, Dec 13, (Reuters). Manuella Maleeva, the Bulgarian champion and world number eight women's tennis player, married Francois Fragniere, a Swiss tennis coach, at the weekend.

Rous Cup

LONDON, Dec 13, (Reuters). Colombia will provide England and Scotland with South American opposition in the Rous Cup next May, the English Football Association (FA) said today.

Tomba triumphs

LA VILLA, Italy, Dec 13, (AP). Italy's Alberto Tomba scored his third consecutive World Cup victory this season by taking a men's giant slalom race in this northern resort of the Badia Valley today.

Tunisia qualify

TUNIS, Dec 13, (Reuters). Tunisia qualified for a place in the 1988 Seoul Olympics with a 3-0 win over Cameroon in the sixth African Volleyball Championships.

Seoul Games

HAMBURG, West Germany, Dec 13, (AP). East Germany has decided to take part in the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, South Korea, and is expected to make an official announcement soon, the West German newsmagazine Der Spiegel said yesterday.

Clough lifts Forest into 3rd place

LONDON, Dec 13, (Reuters). Nigel Clough hit a hat-trick in Nottingham Forest's 4-0 triumph over Queen's Park Rangers today.

Clough's four-minute burst between the 81st and 85th minutes lifted Forest into third place in the English First Division behind leaders Liverpool and Arsenal, fortunate to draw 0-0 at Coventry.

First Clough, son of Forest manager Brian Clough, finished off a devastating burst by Neil Webb. He hit his second from an identical move and added the third from the penalty spot when Stuart Pearce was fouled. Bargain buy Tommy Gaynor opened the scoring four minutes before halftime.

Coventry were twice denied second half penalty claims as Arsenal closed the gap on Liverpool by only one point to five points.

On both occasions England international Tony Adams eluded in Michael Gynn but Coventry's appeals were in vain.

Tottenham manager Terry Venables accused the referee of failing to protect goalkeeper Tony Parks after bottom

SPORTS

Rush fined over newspaper article

TURIN, Italy, Dec 13, (Reuter): Welsh international Ian Rush has been fined five million lire (\$4,000) by his Italian soccer club Juventus over a British newspaper article bearing the striker's name.

Juventus officials also told Rush, who has had an unhappy and disappointing first season with Juventus, to end a contract with the mass-circulation Sun newspaper unless he can exercise more control over statements issued in his name.

The club imposed the fine, the maximum possible under club rules, after the Sun on Friday published what it said was an exclusive story written by Rush headlined "Drop me and I'll quit."

The fine will be docked from the striker's wages.

Sporting director Francesco Morini told reporters yesterday: "This sort of thing has happened before but Rush told us he had been misquoted."

"Either Rush must show he is able to control what appears under his name, or he must stop his co-operation with English newspapers."

Rush, signed from Liverpool for \$4.6 million, said he had again been misquoted and misunderstood by the Sun reporters and said he hoped to meet Juventus officials early this week to discuss the issue.

Rush, whose three-goal total this season has disappointed Italian fans, has admitted he is finding it hard to settle in Italy with the language and style of soccer both causing him problems.

West Germany hold Brazil in friendly

BRASILIA, Dec 13, (Reuter): A goal from defender Stefan Reuter a minute from time lifted West Germany to a 1-1 draw against Brazil in an international friendly soccer match in Brasilia yesterday.

After a goalless first half, full-back Batista put the Brazilians ahead in the 67th minute, heading past Eike Immel after a corner from the right wing.

In the first half, the Germans' tight defence prevented Brazil from having a clear scoring chance, although the visitors themselves rarely tested home goalkeeper Gilmar.

Players from both sides had trouble controlling the ball on the turf which had been damaged earlier in the week when British performer Sting held a concert in the Mane Garrincha stadium.

Tejinder takes Capri past CCK

CAPRI Cricket Club reached the semifinals of the India Tea Board Trophy cricket tournament with a 71-run victory over CCK at the EPI ground on Friday.

Capri won the toss and elected to bat but their decision never seemed to pay off as they lost their top four batsmen for only 45 runs in seven overs.

A 60-run partnership between Ejaz and Sarfraz took them to 105 before the latter was lbw. Ejaz went on to score 41 as Capri scored 138 in 30 overs.

CCK, requiring three runs per over for victory, made a good start through Raees and Riaz who put on 40 runs for the first wicket before Tejinder, leading the Capri side, bowled Riaz in his first over.

Tejinder never allowed the CCK batsmen into the game taking five wickets for only 14 runs as CCK were all out for 67.

Tejinder got some good support from Zia who captured three wickets. Capri will now meet Evergreen in the semifinals. The tournament is being sponsored by the director of the India Tea Board, K.S. Chaturvedi.

Rafferty rallies for Open win

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, Dec 13, (Reuter): Ronan Rafferty won the New Zealand Open golf championship today at the seventh hole of a remarkable playoff after earlier agreeing to share the spoils.

The Northern Irishman, who shared the lead overnight with Larry Nelson, had recovered on the 17th to ensure a playoff with the American PGA champion. Both shot 71 in the final round for a closing 279.

Unexpected Rafferty, winner of the South Australian Open last month, then had to endure the sudden death playoff while trying not to let the unexpected entrance of a helicopter, waiting to whisk Nelson

GOMES AND MADJER SCORE FOR NEW CHAMPIONS

Porto edge Penarol for World Club title

TOKYO, Dec 13, (Reuter): European champions Porto won the World Club Soccer Championship here today when they beat Penarol of Uruguay 2-1 after extra time in a game reduced to near-farce by heavy snow and a muddy pitch.

Opportunist goals from veteran striker Fernando Gomes and Algerian World Cup star Rabah Madjer edged out the powerful and paticot Uruguayans after the teams were level 1-1 at the end of 90 minutes. Madjer's brilliantly-taken winner came in the 18th minute of extra time.

Dissolved Porto coach Tomislav Ivic said he had never before been involved in a game played under such conditions. "If this had been any other game, it would have been postponed," he said before both teams flew out to fulfil domestic commitments.

Both sides worked hard to overcome the problems posed by heavy snow on a poor surface which dissolved into a mudbath. The ball stopped dead as soon as it hit the ground and the players floundered in ankle-deep mud which would have been ruled unfit for the lowliest of amateur soccer matches.

Penarol coach Oscar Tabarez said his team's tactics were sim-



Penarol's Jorge Daniel Cabrera (right) kicks the ball as a Porto player looks on. (Reuter radiophoto)

ply to "kick the ball as hard as possible," while Ivic added: "It was an achievement for a player to get the ball in front of him."

Neither side was able to come up with an answer to the conditions but it was a tribute to both the skills and attitude of the

young Uruguayan side that they were able to provide most of what little technique was visible through the ooz-stop snw.

They fell behind in the 41st minute to a goal resulting partly from the condition of the pitch and partly from the brilliance of

Madjer who will soon be displaying his skills for Bayern Munich.

He danced through the slush into the corner of the penalty area and drove a cross shot past Penarol keeper Eduardo Pereira. The ball touched the ground and stopped dead a metre from the line where the incoming Gomes managed to keep his feet for a second longer than the accompanying defender to prod the ball home.

The goal spurred a determined second-half display by the South Americans whose quest for a fourth championship win was thwarted only by the repeated brilliance and bravery of Porto's Polish international goalkeeper Josef Mlynarczyk.

He was constantly in action as Penarol, prompted by Ricardo Viera, pressed forward and his bravery in dealing with through balls mired in the mud on the six-metre line foiled the ever-dangerous Diego Aguirre on three occasions.

But he was unable to do anything about Viera's equaliser in the 80th minute. The tall powerful midfielder controlled the ball on his chest, turned on the six-metre line and drove a crisp shot beyond the keeper's reach.

The goal appeared to rattle Porto but Penarol, playing the more composed version of kick-

and-rush, were unable to press home their advantage before in the end of normal time.

They continued to attack but paid the price when Madjer, the only Porto player in Penarol's half, chased a long clearance and won it from a defender who was bogged down some 35 metres out.

The Algerian spotted that Pereira, who had spent most of the match patrolling the edge of his penalty box as an extra sweeper, was again outside the area and chipped the ball home from about 30 metres.

The goal in the 108th minute sealed only the second European victory since the contest was moved to the neutral ground of Japan in 1980, but by then only a handful of the 45,000 fans who braved the weather to watch the game were left in the giant National Stadium.

Teams: Porto: Mlynarczyk, Joao Pinto, Inacio, Geraldo, Lima Pereira, Rui Barros (Quim 61st min), Madjer, Sousa, Jaime Magalhaes, Gomes, Andre.

Penarol: Pereira, Herrera (Gonzalez 95th min), Rotti, Trasante, Dominguez, Perdomo, Viera, da Silva, Vidal, Aguirre, Cabrera (Matos 46th min).

Referee: Wohrer (Austria).

Aouita sets sights on Seoul 1,500 metres

MADRID, Dec 13, (Reuter): World 5,000 metres champion Said Aouita of Morocco says he will concentrate his efforts in 1988 on getting ready for the 1,500 metres at the Seoul Olympics.

Aouita, presented by his new Spanish sponsors Larios, told the Spanish newspaper Marca that "all my preparation is going to focus on that distance, although it's likely I'll also compete in the 800 metres."

"I'll run 800 metres two or three times this season. If I go under 1:43, I'll do it at Seoul, if not I'll just go for the 1,500 metres."

Aouita said he looked forward to going against Briton Sebastian Coe, the 800 metres world record

holder. "I like his way of running and I've never been up against him," he said.

"Rivals don't bother me. If I'm in form, I should win."

Aouita, the 1,500 and 5,000 metres world holder, said he felt that he had achieved everything he could in the 5,000 metres and that it was time to move on.

Aouita's signing with Larios, for an undisclosed fee, means he will now live much of the year in Spain. He previously divided his time between Morocco and Italy.

Aouita said he would continue concentrating on the 800 and 1,500 metres until the World Championships in Tokyo in 1991.

"Then I'll go back to the 5,000 and 10,000 metres," he said.

Chang retains WBC crown

SEOUL, Dec 13, (Reuter): World Boxing Council (WBC) light-flyweight champion Chang Jung-Kyo of South Korea survived a first-round knockdown and a cut to retain his title against Mexican Isidro Perez in Taegon today.

Chang, who took the title from Hilario Zapata of Panama in March 1983, set an Asian record of 14 successful defences when he won a unanimous points decision after a powerful comeback in the later rounds.

"He was the toughest guy I have ever met," Chang said afterwards, looking much more tired than the Mexican when the fight was over.

Perez came out punching from the first bell and caught the champion with a formidable left hook in the face that sent him to the canvas half way through the first round.

The gutsy South Korean shrugged it off and stormed back in the later rounds to snatch the verdict.

Toulouse hold Monaco

PARIS, Dec 13, (Reuter): French First Division soccer leader Monaco were held to an inglorious 1-1 tie by Toulouse yesterday, ending points to Bordeaux and Maitre Racing, the two clubs ripping at their heels in the League standings.

With British internationals Mark Hateley and Glenn Hoddle sidelined by injuries, the Monaco team could only muster one goal by striker Marcel Dih, countering that of Toulouse striker Dominique Rocheteau to bring their points total for the 23rd match of the season to 33.

Bordeaux, who beat Le Havre on their home field 1-0, and Racing, who dominated Nice 2-1 there through the talents of their two Uruguayan strikers Enzo Francescoli and Diego Umpierrez, both advanced to 30 points.

Auxerre continued their march up the standings table to fourth place with an easy victory over Bastia 4-0, as Auxerre goalkeeper Bruno Martini kept his cage untroubled for the eighth consecutive game.

The day's matches saw five clubs win away, with Laval accomplishing the unexpected at Nantes (2-1) and Lille at Marseille (1-0).

Joined

Laval's Francois Oman Biyik, who tallied two goals for his team, joined Nantes' Mo Johnston, Marseille's Jeao-Pierre Papin and Saint Etienne's Patrice Garande in the honours list for 11 goals scored each.

The division's 24th game of the season, the last before a winter break, will be played next Saturday on December 19.

Jordan scores 44 points as Bulls stop Rockets

CHICAGO, Dec 13, (AP): Michael Jordan scored 31 of his 44 points in the second half, including 18 in the final quarter, as the Chicago Bulls downed the Houston Rockets 112-103 in an NBA game yesterday.

Jordan, who scored the Bulls' last 10 points, added nine assists, five steals and five blocked shots as the Bulls improved their record to 14-6, best in the NBA.

Charles Oakley added 19 points and 14 rebounds for Chicago, in addition to limiting Houston's Ralph Sampson to one point in the final quarter.

Nuggets 131, 76ers 121 Jay Vincent scored a season-high 33 points as Denver built a 19-point lead and then held off Philadelphia 131-121.

Charles Barkley led the 76ers with 28 points and Cliff Robinson added 25, while Maurice Cheeks had 18 points and a season-high 16 assists.

Trail Blazers 108, Pacers 101 Clyde Drexler scored 28 points and the Portland Trail Blazers held off a late Indiana rally to beat the Pacers 108-101.

Portland made 32 of 43 free throws, compared with 13 of 15 for Indiana. Chuck Perso and Vern Fleming led Indiana with 18 points each.

Pistons 124, Knicks 96 Adrian Dantley scored 25 points to lead the Detroit Pistons to their sixth straight victory, a fight-marred 124-96 decision over the New York Knicks. Detroit guard Isaiah Thomas

and New York forward Sydney Green, a former Piston, were ejected for fighting with 11:22 left in the third quarter and Detroit leading 61-52.

Bullets 122, Nets 107

Bernard King scored 32 points as the Washington Bullets pulled away in the second half for a 122-107 victory, handing the New Jersey Nets their 11th consecutive loss.

Otis Birdsong led the Nets with 21 points and Mike Gminski added 17.

Spurs 129, Suns 110 Alvin Robertson scored 30 points as the San Antonio Spurs defeated the Phoenix Suns 129-110 last night.

Jazz 127, Warriors 93 Mel Turpin scored a season-high 22 points and Karl Malone had 19 points and 12 rebounds to lead the Utah Jazz to a 127-93 victory over the Golden State Warriors.

Immediately after the game the Warriors announced they had traded centre Joe Barry Carroll and guard Sleepy Floyd to the Houston Rockets for centre Ralph Sampson and guard Steve Harris.

Results	
Denver	131 Philadelphia 121
Chicago	112 Houston 103
Portland	108 Indiana 101
Washington	122 New Jersey 107
Detroit	124 New York 96
San Antonio	129 Phoenix 110
Utah	127 Golden State 93
Seattle	116 Clippers 95

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